

OUT WEEK

NEW YORK'S
LESBIAN
AND GAY
NEWS
MAGAZINE

LESBIANS AND THE GIRL SCOUTS



**FLASHIN' FASHION:
THE NY COLLECTIONS AND BEYOND**

**CENSORING GAY ART:
THE NEA FIASCO**

**BREACHING THE WALL:
GAY EAST GERMANS GO WEST**

**THE CELLULOID CLOSET'S
VITO RUSSO**

NEWS • SEXUAL POLITICS • HEALTH • THE ARTS

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY L. COOPERSON

ILLUSTRATION BY ROBERT WILSON

DESIGN BY JEFFREY L. COOPERSON

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MARS NEEDS MEN



SUNDAYS

Chip Duckett presents MARS NEEDS MEN Sundays at Mars/live bands/drag queens/go-go boys/5 floors of fun & a roof/dance DJ's Michael Connolly, John Suliga, and Larry Tee/New York's premiere Drag DJ Perfidia/West Side Highway and 13th Street

OutWeek

CONTENTS

Nov. 26, 1989

NEWS

12

On The Cover:

OutWeek freelance photographer Patsy Lynch's self-portrait in an old Girl Scout uniform. In 1964, when Lynch was 11, she was asked to leave the Scouts for being "overly affectionate" with other scouts, and for advocating for the "boys" activities she had been promised, rather than the home-ec being conducted by the troop leader.

"One day the Scout Leader called my parents, and told them not to bring me back the next week," Lynch said.

While some things have changed, others have not.

See Fighting Invisibility, page 18.

Photo by Patsy Lynch and Mark Faram.



DEPARTMENTS

Outspoken (Editorial)	4
Letters	6
Sotomayor	6
Stonewall Riots (Natalie)	8
Xeroxed	9
Blurt/Out	9
Nightmare of the Week	10
Alison Bechdel	11
Political Science (Harrington)	34
Out Of Control (Day)	36
GLAAD Tidings	37
Look Out	46
Out Of My Hands (Ball)	48
Gossip Watch	49
Social Terrorism	50
Going Out Calendar (X)	62
Bar Guide	64
Community Directory	66
Classifieds	69
Personals	74
Crossword	90

FEATURES



FLASHIN' FASHION

In A Special Tribute To The Terminally Trendy Queer, George Wayne, Sarah Pettit, Jay Blotcher, Liz Tracey, John Voelcker, Sydney Pokorny, Andrew Miller and Victoria Starr Obsess About The New York Collections, A Lesbian's Lust For Chanel, Fashion Death, Activante Wear And Other Extremely Pertinent Matters.

Photo: George Wayne

page 38

HEALTH

Political Science (Harrington)

34

THE ARTS

Film *The Celluloid Closet*

52

Film *The Everlasting Secret Family*

54

Music *Indigo Girls*

55

Theater *Positive Me*

56

Theater *3 Penny Opera*

57

Books *Personal Dispatches*

58

Books *A Village Affair, Ducks*

59

OUTSPOKEN

One Small Step For Unity

The decisions by John Frohnmyer, the chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, to first withdraw and then restore funding to an *Artists Space* exhibit about AIDS is a significant victory for our community. While poor Mr. Frohnmyer appears to be a bumbling idiot, his actions nevertheless illustrate both the precariousness and the power of lesbians and gays in society.

Our precarious position is revealed by the original cancellation of the *Artists Space* grant. Frohnmyer claimed that his decision was based on the 'political' nature of exhibit's catalogue, a catalogue which criticizes homophobes such as Cardinal O'Connor and Jesse Helms. Yet no one can believe that if the catalogue were politically supportive of O'Connor or Helms it would have lost federal funding. Funding was denied not because the catalogue is political, but because of the direction of its politics, a direction which counters the anti-gay agenda of the right wing.

The unspoken rationale behind the cancellation was that, thanks to the Helms Amendment (which denies federal grants to art depicting "sadomasochism" and "homoeroticism") some now feel it's open season on both sexual and political gays. Actions that were previously unthinkable in our supposedly free society, like axing an art show on political grounds, have now become frighteningly thinkable. The NEA Chair not only thought he could get away with muzzling queers, he thought he was expected to by the intensely homophobic mood in official Washington. And even many in the arts and media who consider themselves our friends were contradicted by their own actions. One group of straight artists, obviously blind to the central issue of homophobia, even put together an "anti-Helms" show which included work by outspoken homophobe Mark Kostabi.

That's the bad news. The good news is that Frohnmyer was thwarted in his insidious attempt at censorship by a society that seemed genuinely outraged by that attempt. Anyone who watched Cable News Network's hilarious reporting on the misadventures of the NEA chairman could not be unimpressed by the mainstream media's clear disapproval, intense coverage and open ridicule of his actions. And although many gays were rightly upset at the "anti-Helms show" that included Kostabi, gay and lesbian groups nonetheless successfully united with arts groups and were powerfully represented in the press. The anger and action of gays, lesbians, artists, politicians, bureaucrats and members of the media united to roll back the tide of homophobia. At least in this case.

Good news though this may be, it's not yet time to begin rejoicing. Those whose self-interest causes them to unite with us over the issue of censorship are often absent from our other struggles. And the Helms Amendment, the root of this particular evil, is still very much on the books. Nonetheless, this small but significant victory should encourage us to build on the coalitions which worked to such good effect here, and should inspire us to imagine a more effective political future. ▼

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LETTERS

Divisive Division

I write with respect to the article that ran in the November 5 issue of *Out-Week* concerning the disciplinary actions taken against Human Rights Commission employees Katy Taylor and Keith O'Connor. I am the Supervising Attorney for Fair Housing and Public Accommodations at the Commission, and was a staff attorney in the AIDS Division for two years previously. I am a lesbian and have been doing AIDS work for more than seven years. I write you because I am deeply troubled by the tone of your article, as well as the divisive nature of Katy and

Keith's response to the disciplinary charges.

What underlies the actions taken against Katy and Keith, in my opinion, has been a growing problem in the AIDS Division with ownership of the work of the Division, and a refusal to be accountable either to the Commission or the communities we have a public charge to serve. In over two years of close work with them I have seen an unwillingness to allow other people, particularly people of color, to assert leadership in shaping the Commission's AIDS discrimination work. As a result, the public face of the Division has remained

white, while increasingly the communities most in need of our help are communities of color.

Just as AIDS discrimination work requires an acute sensitivity to the nature of homophobia in this city, so too the work requires an understanding of how racism operates to oppress many persons with AIDS in New York. Keith and Katy's failure to understand this is best illustrated by the quote from Keith in your article, "If we were doing work with race relations and were as successful as we are, they'd be putting crowns on our heads." What Keith does not recognize is that AIDS work is about "race relations" just as much as it is about gay rights or disability rights work. People with AIDS cannot afford to allow the gay community

to narrowly define this issue any longer.

In a world where we all experience the pain of homophobic bias every day, I am reluctant to discredit serious bias charges made by members of my own community. However, what Katy and Keith have done is yell "Fire" in the theater of the gay community. It makes sense that many of us would rally to their defense, but when the dust settles, the ones who will ultimately lose will be people with AIDS and people of color.

Anyone with any sense of political acumen could have predicted that Katy and Keith's sexual orientation and gender discrimination charges would create a chasm between white gay people and people of color within and without the Com-

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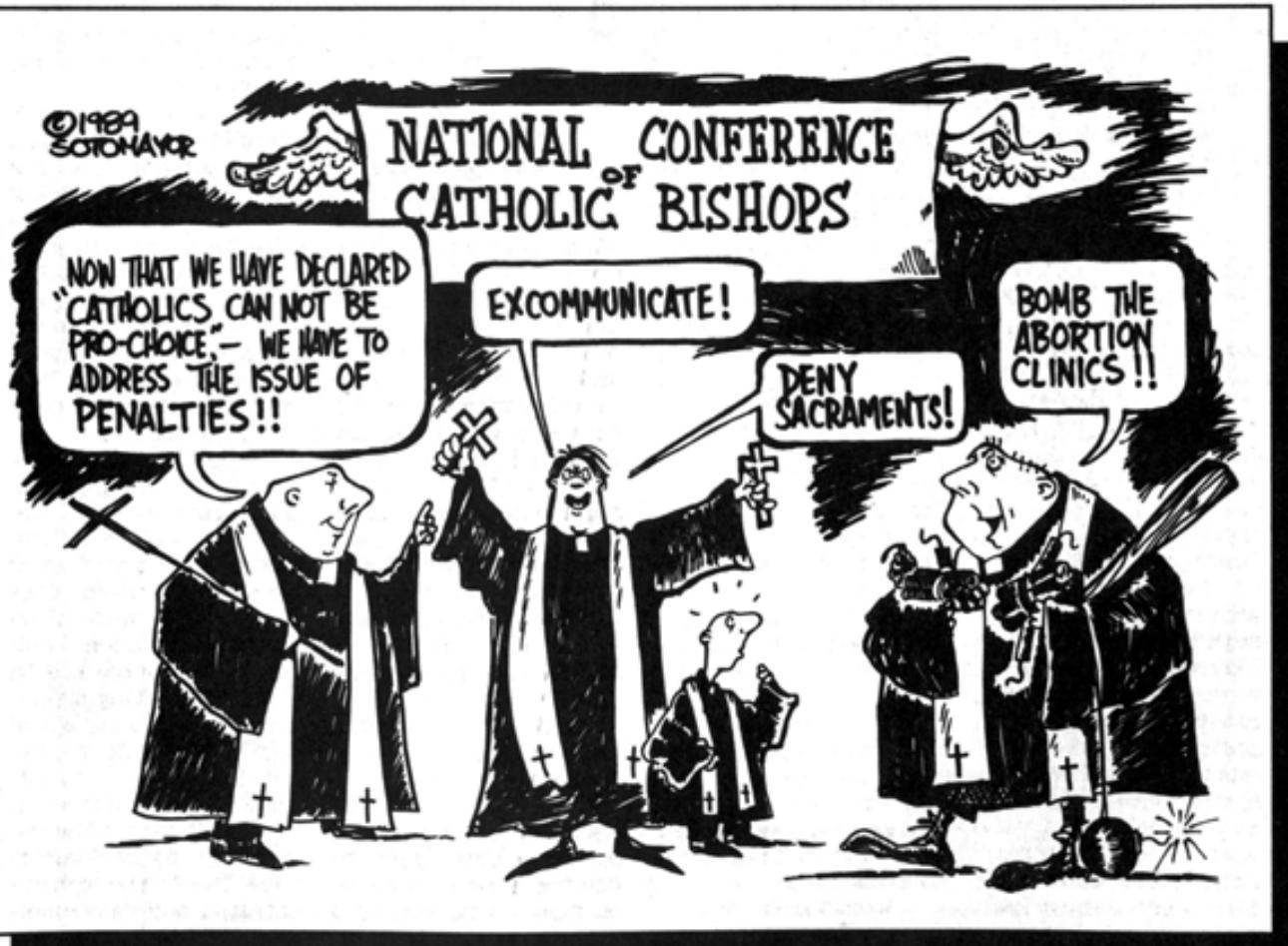
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

"NOW THAT WE HAVE DECLARED CATHOLICS CAN NOT BE PRO-CHOICE"—WE HAVE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF PENALTIES!!

EXCOMMUNICATE!

DENY SACRAMENTS!

BOMB THE ABORTION CLINICS!!



mission. This is, in fact, exactly what has happened. By raising what I believe to be unfounded charges, Katy and Keith have forced many of us to choose sides in a debate we know can only result in harm to all. Our community cannot afford this type of divisiveness.

I hope that my comments will prompt you to take another look at the circumstances surrounding the disciplinary charges brought against Katy and Keith. I would urge *OutWeek* staff to contact me should you have any further questions. I do believe that this topic raises important issues of concern for the gay and lesbian community with respect to our ownership of AIDS as well as racism in our own community.

Sincerely,
Katherine M. Franke
NYC Commission on
Human Rights
Supervising Attorney
Fair Housing/Public
Accommodations
Manhattan

Camp Cramp

I am disgusted and disappointed by your farcical treatment of the letter to *OutWeek* by Lisa Olson and Julie Clark ("Letters to the Editor," Nov. 19). Ms. Olson and Ms. Clark are stating a serious critique of *OutWeek* and its journalistic responsibility to the community that supports it, and your response is to title their letter "Faster Lesbians, Kill, Kill."

Such an obvious reference to a campy old movie might have been funny if the subject at hand were not so immediately pertinent to issues now facing the lesbian and gay community. Lesbian invisibility in the AIDS crisis is just now being faced and it is only through the work of many women, including Ms. Olson and Ms. Clark, that their invisibility in this crisis is ending.

There are many people outside the lesbian and gay community who would love to see us tear ourselves apart through insensitivity and infighting. *OutWeek*, if it is to be a progressive voice for lesbian and gay issues, must show the same respect for our own people that we, in turn, demand from the rest of the world.

Kevin Ottersten
Manhattan

Who's Invisible

As a frequent reader of *OutWeek*, I was surprised by the letter in last week's issue complaining about "lesbian invisibility" in your magazine. Aside from the tone of the letter, which was angry and insulting, I was amazed at the content.

Lesbians are not invisible in *OutWeek*. In fact, there is more coverage of lesbians and lesbian issues in *OutWeek* than in any other gay paper I know of. In New York *The Native* doesn't cover lesbian stuff at all. In the rest of the country only *Out/Look*, a quarterly, has as much in-depth coverage as *OutWeek*.

I'm not saying you're perfect. I do have my complaints. Particularly the club photos could have more about women's events, and there isn't much about women's sports, which I would like to see. Also, the tone of some of your lesbian coverage seems biased in favor of younger women, and some of your women writers have a flippant attitude towards more established lesbian attitudes and styles.

But overall you're doing a better job than anybody else. Instead of insulting you, we should be encouraging you to keep it up, and try to do even better in the future.

Susan Marchi
Brooklyn

Rad Analysis

Concerning Andrew Krastins' article "Learning Homophobia," (*OutWeek*, #21) perhaps he might have included in his analysis something that he alluded to about homophobia (the "root cause" of) and the Radical Right, that is demonstrating or offering explanation of cause (or the question why homophobia is needed by the Radical Right).

"Need" in and of itself is not an explanation *per se*.

What interests does homophobia serve? Capital? Who embodies that interest? Capitalists? How and why do group dynamics get structured in adversarial ways?

I hope to see Krastins continue his important work.

I apologize for my writing style, but not the content.

David Knapp Whittier
Manhattan

Good Advice

It is with great expectations that, every Monday, I get my copy of *OutWeek*. Almost equally thrilled is my newsdealer whom I had urged to stock your publication which he now sells briskly. So far, we had to make do with *The Advocate* (a soporific magazine that has yet to discover lesbians, Blacks and Asians) and *The Native* (in which no self respecting fish wants to be wrapped). It is now clear that *OutWeek* is about to experience a tremendous surge in its readership and take a major position in the American publishing scene.

However, as a dedicated reader, I have some comments to share. I urge you to keep your irreverent style and down-to-earth attitude. Also, remember that unity is our best weapon against the dark forces that attack us on our streets, in the media and in our Congress. We should

acknowledge and support our friends, ACT UP who has taught us to be more militant, GMHC who pioneered support for PWAs, The Center who has given us a home and the many politicians who have spoken up for our rights. True, they may not be correct all the time, but they are doing the right thing; so give them credit and stop splitting hairs. Are you listening Michelangelo Signorile? Mille grazie for your buttering up Kostabi, but please ease off James Revson, he is a friend. Another of your targets, Malcolm Forbes, has shown that he will listen to us, and he supports AmFAR. So get to your stove and start baking cream pies to throw at our true enemies. The list is very long: the Buckleys, O'Connor and his acolyte Austin Vaughn, Noah Dear, Jesse Helms, Mona Charen, Farrakhan, Dannemeyer, Lou Sheldon, Rev. Wildmon, Jerry Falwell, et al.

Lets try to retire some of those old cliches. No Susie Day, lesbians are not doomed to be poor. Look at our admirable sisters from Soho Soda who have managed to overcome lesbophobia, corporate mugging and have blossomed into a highly successful All-Natural beverage company. They also are angels to gay causes. Quite a role model!

Thanks to you, Mark Chesnut for your piece on the Lavender Light Choir and its educational efforts. The music is harmonious all the way, but come on Chas Bennett Brack, stop trotting out that tired canard that gay organizations are "a white thing." Gay Blacks, where were you the day of AIDS-Walk NY? Or at other events of support and solidarity? I hurt to see so few of you out there. Follow the example of our Black lesbian sisters. They can be seen volunteering and demonstrating for our health, well being

and lives. Come out, it is our fight, let's join forces and help each other.

In conclusion, if the Berlin Wall can be torn down, we too can take picks and chisels and break down the barriers that our enemies have managed to erect. If the Greens can be elected in countries as different as liberal Sweden and conservative Switzerland, we too can gather more political muscle.

It will take time, sweat and money, but we can make it together. As a PWA, I do not know if I will be around to savor the fruits of victory, but it must be done.

OutWeek, we have your support and you have ours.

Andre Alexis Chesaux
Manhattan

Clique-Up?

Boy, that Chip Duckett sure does live up to his down-town nickname. Being a promoter, Mr. Duckett is obviously concerned with only one thing: that lots of people come to his parties and line his pockets...at whatever cost.

We learn in Kid Mason's "Tripping The Night Fantastic" (*OutWeek*, #22) that the "entertainment" provided at Chip's Adonis birthday bash was a fist-fucking duo. BUT, we are reassured, "it was done safely, with a glove." Since when does the inclusion of a rubber glove make fist-fingering a safe sex activity? I was not aware that a glove-clad fist was less anally mutilating than one without.

The most disturbing

fact, though, is that Mr. Duckett promotes benefits for ACT UP! So, a very loud finger-snap to YOU, ACT UP, for not only looking the other way for the sake of a little cash, but for coming nearer to proving the creeping suspicion that much of your membership are attention seeking club kids who want to be in the trendiest clique in town.

LJM
Manhattan

Fierce But Friendly

I wish to express my strong support for your inclusion of the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) in your Community Directory. If for reasons of paranoia or prudery you stop carrying NAMBLA or

take an editorially hostile position towards NAMBLA, I will immediately cancel my subscription in protest and encourage others to do so. Your contributors, of course, have every right to express hostile or paranoid views.

As a member of NAMBLA's Steering Committee and a resident of New York, I look forward to an always friendly relationship. Good luck in making New York's best-ever alternative magazine. Thank you very much.

An Anonymous
Subscriber
P.S. This was not written by R. Giuliani

Message Received

Thank you for having the guts to say the message so clearly and well in your November 12 editorial, "The High Cost of Charity." Let's just hope that someone who isn't on your fabulous staff (besides me) gets it! Because those few of us who do are getting damn tired of the MANY generals who are missing the point and thereby selling us down the river without even so much as a paddle. Keep up the good work and Happy Armed Forces Day to you too!

Rodger Pettyjohn, RN,
PWA, PAW
(Professional AIDS Warrior)
Brooklyn

STONEWALL RIOTS

by ANDREA NATALIE



"GOSH, PAT AND SUE! ISN'T IT JUST
AWFUL ABOUT THIS LYME DISEASE?"



OutWeek welcomes letters from its readers. Please include your name and phone number for verification, and mail all correspondence to:

Letters to the Editor
OutWeek Magazine
77 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10010

XEROXED

Personnel Problem

Dr. John E. Brandon
Chairperson and Commission on Human Rights
Dear Commissioner:

We are writing on behalf of the Columbia Gay Health Advocacy Project to protest the Commission's maltreatment of two of your most effective staff members; Keith O'Connor and Katy Taylor of the AIDS Discrimination Division.

The saying goes: "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Taylor have provided exemplary service to New Yorkers affected by the HIV epidemic through their work with the AIDS Discrimination Division. How does the Commission justify disrupting this valuable work? If you have cause for this action, please declare it. If not, are you allowing internal politics and petty jealousies to take precedence over your duty to your constituency?

The Commission has been one of the few government agencies that has consistently supported the rights of people with AIDS and HIV. Do not mislead yourself: this is not simply a "personnel" decision or a question of conflicting legal philosophies, but rather a matter that gravely affects both your Commission's reputation and its ability to carry out its function.

We ask that you allow Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Taylor to continue their desperately needed work with the AIDS Discrimination Division as before. We also ask that you provide assurances that this bizarre self-destructive internal warfare will not again threaten essential services for the hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers affected by HIV.

Laura Pinsky, Director
Paul Harding Douglas,
Co-Director
Columbia Gay Health
Advocacy Project

GLID Plea

Hon. John Brandon, Commissioner
New York City Human Rights Commission
Dear Commissioner:

GLID was alarmed to learn that the Human Rights Commission is trying to terminate the directors of the AIDS unit, Katy Taylor and Keith O'Connor. These two people have devoted their lives to defending people with AIDS against discrimination.

These two people have pioneered new areas of human rights enforcement for people with AIDS, including for women, people of color (Hispanics, Blacks, Native Americans, Asians) and prisoners. They have created a model of how human rights enforcement should operate that is being studied and replicated by human rights agencies

throughout the United States.

The Human Rights Commission has been criticized recently for being ineffective, and the commission has been able to answer that criticism with the example of the AIDS unit. You said yourself in a recent video produced by the AIDS unit that AIDS would set the litmus test of how the agency responds to crises with compassion.

It is insane to try to terminate these two workers at a time when the whole city needs them, and the nation looks to them for leadership on this issue. We at GLID hope that you will reconsider your actions. We look forward to the positive resolution of this matter, and are confident that the commission will choose to retain Keith and Katy.

John Magisano
Acting President
Gay and Lesbian Independent Democrats
Manhattan

Youth Truth

Barbara Rapoport
State Education Dept.
Division of Civil Rights and Intercultural Relations
Dear Ms. Rapoport:

As the founder and for-

mer executive director of a youth agency that has to deal daily with the problems of bigotry and stigmatization, and as a member of the New York City Board of Education's advisory committee on multicultural education, I was pleased to hear that the New York State Education Department, Division of Civil Rights and Intercultural Relations was planning on sending a pamphlet on prejudice to each student in New York State. I was dismayed, however, when I saw the pamphlet itself.

A New York State survey of 2,823 New York State High School students, commissioned by the Governor's Task Force on Bias Related Violence found that "comments about gays were often openly vicious. Emphasis was frequently added to the negative responses and a number of students threatened violence against gays."

Yet gay or lesbian people are not mentioned in the pamphlet you have chosen to distribute to fight prejudice to fight prejudice among school children.

Studies of bias related

Blurt/Out

NOT CONTENT TO LET SLEEPING DYKES LIE...

"Elvis is alive—and she's beautiful," gushed sochsy siren Madonna Ciccone after taking in k.d. lang's L.A. show (*Rolling Stone*, November 2).

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT, SHOULD YOU GIVE UP THAT RIGHT...

"Jamie was a prototype, a pipe dream; we thought we would have to cast an unknown. Megan is a tough character to play. She has to be incredibly strong, has to be androgynous. She has to be an Everyman," enthused Kathryn Bigelow, film director and former editrix at *Semiotext(e)*, on casting Jamie Lee Curtis as the rookie cop in the forthcoming *Blue Steel* (*GQ*, October).

THE MYSTERIES OF NOMENCLATURE...

"Hi Norris," she said to the lesbian woman behind the counter.
"Just an espresso," scribes Michael Chabon (*The New Yorker*, November 8).

—Sarah Pettit

violence sponsored by the federal government have indicated that gay and lesbian people are the groups most likely to suffer bias related violence. We started the Harvey Milk High School Program several years ago to help some of the school age victims of such violence. Last year two of our clients were beaten up and stabbed on the upper west side of New York. Over 40 percent of the young people who come to us have suffered violence because of their sexual orientation, half from their families, half from peers.

Yet gay or lesbian people are not mentioned in the pamphlet you have chosen to distribute to fight prejudice among school children.

Starting as low as the second grade, the most frequent epithet in school is "faggot."

Yet gay or lesbian peo-

ple are not mentioned in the pamphlet you have chosen to distribute to fight prejudice among school children.

Many gay and lesbian students drop out before graduation because they cannot stand the stress of hiding, the fear of discovery or the violence and humiliation they suffer if they are found out. Yet, unlike Project 10 in Los Angeles, there is no program in our schools that addresses the needs of these young people at high risk for dropping out.

Yet gay or lesbian people are not mentioned in the pamphlet you have chosen to distribute to fight prejudice among school children.

Current studies indicate that the risk of teenage suicide in gay and lesbian youth is second only to that of Native American teenagers. These suicide attempts are the direct result of the fear,

hatred and ignorance generated by homophobia.

Yet gay or lesbian people are not mentioned in the pamphlet you have chosen to distribute to fight prejudice among school children.

The New York City Board of Education has a non-discrimination policy that also applies to content and delivery of programs.

Yet gay or lesbian people are not mentioned in the pamphlet you have chosen to distribute to fight prejudice among school children.

It is indeed worthy that our state government in general, and your department in particular, work to eliminate prejudice and all its attendant evils from the minds and souls of our young people. The conscious decision not to mention a group that suffers from the effects of stigmatization, ignorance and prejudice is worse than

inept. It is an active participation in the oppression of that group.

I hope you, and your department, will reconsider and find another, more appropriate pamphlet for distribution.

A. Damien Martin,
Ed.D.
Co-Founder, former
Executive Director and
Board Member
Herrick-Martin Institute

When in Rome...

ANSA
Il Messaggero
Dear ANSA & Il Messaggero:

The North American Man/Boy Love Association, at its annual General meeting in New York City today, expresses its outrage at the bigoted and unenlightened nature of your coverage of homosexuals following the recent raid on Montecapriano Park in Rome. So out-

Nightmare of the Week

We hate to do this. We really do. The Pope seems like such a nice guy, like when he kisses the ground and stuff.

But alas, this week his Catholicism finally got the better of his humanity. He hosted a three-day gay bash-a-thon which he called an AIDS conference in which a cleric suggested that AIDS was indeed God's wrath. But the worst, the most heart wrenching part was when John Paul himself said that the "cause" of AIDS was the "abuse of sexuality." So much for that ol' time religion. Or, in the words of the real Madonna, "Poppa, don't preach."

geous is that coverage that Italian gay activists have been prompted to seek support as far away as the United States. NAMBLA, which itself has often been the victim of unenlightened news reporting, and knows how damaging it can be to freedom of expression and association, and how it compounds already existing social oppression, urges you to retract any biased or inflammatory statements you have made and stop your antigay coverage immediately.

David Thorstad,
Co-spokesperson
North American
Man/Boy Love
Association

How Gay Newsday?

Mr. Tom Curan
Deputy Metro Editor
New York Newsday
Dear Mr. Curan:

New York Newsday's cover story on Nov. 9th, "With the Numbers So Close, Every Constituency Mattered," succeeded in making the gay and lesbian electorate invisible, as it has been through most of Newsday's election coverage.

Your story, striving to be inclusive, listed every major group of voters: Blacks, Jews, Hispanics, white liberals, younger voters, past Democratic and past Republican voters, the wealthier, voters over age 50, voters outside Manhattan, blue-collar workers, professional and managerial workers, etc.

Nowhere did you mention gay and lesbian voters who, according to the Daily News/Eyewitness News exit poll, voted 64 percent for David Dinkins. (Dinkins, by the way, was supported by both the Gay and Lesbian

Independent Democrats and the Stonewall Democratic Club, and strongly endorsed by both OutWeek and the Native, the city's two gay papers.)

The exclusion of the gay community from Newsday's election coverage has been an unwelcome development. Newsday failed to cover David Dinkins at a rally for gay and lesbian supporters on Nov. 2nd. Speaking to a standing-room only throng inside the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center on W. 13th Street, Dinkins delivered an impassioned defense of gay rights and affirmed his support for issues ranging from domestic partnership legislation to stronger bias-related violence penalties that include "sexual orientation" as a category. Would a major rally for any other constituency have been

ignored?

On Sunday, Nov. 5th, two days before the election, Dinkins was the keynote speaker at the Human Rights Campaign Fund's annual dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria, where he shared the dais with Elie Wiesel. The HRCF is the nation's largest gay and lesbian political action committee. Newsday failed to cover this event as well.

So, having failed to focus on the gay electorate and its issues, Newsday now fails to include gay voters in a sweeping roundup of how "every constituency" mattered.

This is a salient concern, and I encourage you to give it consideration.

Stephen H. Miller
Chair,
Media Committee
Gay and Lesbian
Alliance Against
Defamation, Inc.

Dykes to Watch Out For



Kramer AIDS Play Ignites Protests

Supporter's Home Torched in Missouri College Town



PROUDLY PROMOTING

Colleen Dewhurst, Larry Kramer and Brad Davis at last week's ATR fundraiser.

Photo: Bill Bytsura

by Andrew Miller

SPRINGFIELD, Missouri—The house of a student supporting the local campus production of New York playwright Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart* was torched and burned to the ground Wednesday evening during an AIDS vigil held on opening night at Southwest Missouri State University. According to sources, arson was suspected because gasoline had been poured over much of the house.

No one was injured in the fire, which completely destroyed the two-bedroom home rented by Brad Evans, a theater student at the university, but Evans' two cats perished in the blaze.

Evans, who was not at home at the time of the alleged arson, had formed People Acting With Compa-

sion and Tolerance to champion the play's campus production, after members of the Assemblies of God church, which is headquartered there, at least one state legislator and various local residents decried the university's financial support of a play that "promotes homosexuality and anti-family values."

The American Civil Liberties Union immediately became involved in the alleged arson, and asked the FBI to investigate the case as a civil rights attack. But sources said the fire is more likely to be looked into locally.

In a statement released to the press Thursday, Dick Kurtenbach, executive director of the ACLU of Western Missouri, said, "The fire-bombing of Evans' home was an apparent retaliation for his exercise of rights of speech and association

protected by the U.S. Constitution. This act was not only an outrageous violation of the law but a clear attempt to intimidate all citizens from speaking out against censorship."

The fire occurred during a candlelight vigil outside the campus theater honoring people living with AIDS and memorializing those who have died from the disease, that preceded the play's opening performance.

Evans, a senior in the theater department from Carthage, Missouri, which is an hour southwest of Springfield, said he believes the play is a means of promoting AIDS awareness, and told *OutWeek* that the incident had "done nothing but strengthen my beliefs and the values I already held. The people here know about AIDS, but they don't realize that it's here in Springfield, and they would rather stick their heads in the sand than save lives," he added.

Evans said that he had received no harassing phone calls or threats. He discovered what had happened on his way home from school. "I turned on to my street and there was a solid wall of fire trucks, and I knew that everything was gone," he said. According to him, the alleged arsonists broke in the back door and poured gasoline around the house, and then set it on fire.

He is currently staying with friends.

Paul Summers, the president of Citizens Demanding Standards, Inc., the group leading the protests against the play, said, "We don't know who did it," adding that his organization "wants to know worse than anyone else who did it, because we're under suspicion," but stopped short of denouncing the fire.

In past weeks, Summers' organization has lobbied, protested and taken out full page ads in local newspapers denouncing university officials, and listing the "favorite activity" of homosexuals as "illegal oral sodomy."

Referring to *The Normal Heart*, the advertisement asks "AIDS education or homosexual political agenda?" adding, "This play will go on—more deviant plays will follow—will you pay for it?" The ad also calls for "compassion and understanding for AIDS carriers," and "completely truthful AIDS education."

"The only thing that we've been after is the use of state funds for the promotion of the homosexual political agenda," said Summers, who blamed the university for the escalation of the situation that led to Evans' house being torched.

Citizens Demanding Standards' president, who said he had read the play, added, "There's nothing wrong with talking about [homosexuality] or studying it, but this [play] isn't a history lesson. You can study Marxism without promoting it."

According to the Springfield News-Leader, the local daily paper in which the anti-Kramer ad ran, State Representative Jean Dixon, the leading opponent of the play and a member of Citizens Demanding Standards, said the fire was "terrible" and "ridiculous" but called Evans a "satan worshipper" and suggested he may have set the fire himself.

Dixon also scheduled a press conference the morning after the blaze in the yard in front of Evans' house, and reportedly examined the remains of Evans' two cats. She later accused Evans of "sacrificing" the cats himself. Dixon could not be reached for comment by press time. Evans is having the cats autopsied to prove that their deaths were a result of smoke inhalation.

Kramer reacted with a mixture of anger, humor and disbelief. "It seems to have gone beyond the point of sanity, when you're burning houses down and talking about satan worship and autopsying cats," he said. "You wonder what country this

See KRAMER PLAY on page 32

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Embattled NYC Health Commissioner Resigns

Joseph Makes Final Bid for HIV Name Reporting

by Ben Currie

NEW YORK—Cause for rejoicing for some in the AIDS community was squelched this week, when what they considered to be yet another bitter pill was prescribed by Dr. Stephen Joseph. A day after the highly-controversial New York City health commissioner announced his resignation, he made a last-ditch attempt to foist his highly-divisive HIV contact tracing and testing proposal on state health authorities.

Joseph joined the ranks of city hospitals chief Jo Ivey Boufford and others in the lame duck administration of Mayor Edward Koch when he resigned in a letter to his boss last week.

But first, he managed to gather a "consensus" on the New York City Board of Health to support his idea to ask the state health department to collect the names of persons who test positive for HIV, the virus associated with AIDS, and then "trace" and contact their drug or sex partners.

Joseph gave the availability of new early intervention treatment strategies as the basis for his reasoning.

Most AIDS activists, and gay and lesbian rights groups, and many health professionals and elected officials have criticized the plan when Joseph proposed a similar version at last June's international AIDS conference in Montreal. Koch at that time rejected the proposal under pressure from the AIDS community, although he is now deferring to the decision of the state health commissioner. Mayor-elect David Dinkins is on record as being against such a plan.

Joseph's Montreal announcement was greeted with a flurry of criticisms, and Joseph backed down, saying, "there was no original plan," to end

anonymous HIV testing. At the time, the health commissioner said, "I wanted to spark debate and I did."

Many in the AIDS community had believed that the storm of criticism from so many different quarters had effectively put an end to Joseph's plan, which calls for a parallel network of anonymous and confidential testing facilities, and which many say would inhibit people from seeking testing and treatment. Others are wary of the guarantee of confidentiality for government-kept lists. Currently, incidences of HIV positivity and actual AIDS cases, but not names, are reported to state health authorities.

"He's beating a dead horse," Gay Men's Health Crisis spokesperson Carisa Cunningham told *OutWeek*.

Bill Monaghan, a member of ACT UP, called the reintroduction of the proposal "absolutely assinine." He and many members of the activist group have hounded Joseph for much of the last year, accusing the health commissioner of being seriously out of touch with the gay and AIDS communities.

State Health Commissioner David Axelrod, with whom, along with the state legislature, the ultimate authority to make such a policy change lies, is on record as opposing the concept, mainly on the grounds that it would discourage people from voluntarily coming forward to determine their HIV status.

And Cunningham raised the



SOON TO BE UNLISTED
Dr. Stephen Joseph

appropriateness of recommending such a drastic policy shift so late in his tenure. "We question why Dr. Joseph is spending his final days pursuing this idea instead of implementing some of the programs that have been promised and have not materialized," she said. Previously, GMHC has criticized the plan for prioritizing the identifying of people in need of treatments that may not actually be available to them.

Cunningham also cited several examples of states where the implementation of mandatory name reporting resulted in a chilling effect that drastically reduced the number of people who voluntarily came forward, and noted that when Oregon eliminated its contact tracing program, those numbers increased. ▼

News

Frank Young Resigns from FDA Top Spot

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Frank E. Young abruptly announced his resignation Nov. 13, after months of harsh criticism from a wide array of critics, which at one point included many in the nation's AIDS community.

Effective Dec. 18, Young, who has held the agency's top spot since 1984, will move to an advisory position within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), a switch critics have called a demotion in no uncertain terms.

It will now be the responsibility of Undersecretary of Health James O. Mason to pick a replacement for Young. Rumored as a possible replacement for Young has been Dr. Burton Lee III, personal physician to the president and former member of the Presidential Commission on the HIV Epidemic. Lee has worked closely with AIDS activists in the past and is a proponent of early AIDS drug access.

In past months, Young has been criticized for his handling of the FDA generic drug scandal and his agency's reaction to the Chilean grape scare. Most recently, Young has again had his feet held to the fire on the lack of restrictions on unsubstantiated health claims made on food packaging.

"We were surprised, not only by [Young's] decision [to resign], but by the way it was described," stated Greg King, communications director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund. "I think it certainly isn't complimentary when a senior health official indicates his change in jobs is not in any way a promotion."

Still, despite the harsh criticism of Young by congressional sources and consumer advocates, others were more quick to blame the agency's lack of resources for its many problems.

Wishing Young well in his new

responsibilities, Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-CA), who chairs the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, did not cite Young as the root of the agency's many problems. "The FDA is one of our most important public health agencies," said Waxman. "It has faced numerous difficult circumstances in the past few years with a severe lack of resources. I hope that the president will back up his new FDA leadership with much needed personnel and staff."

It was under Young that, after heated pressure from the AIDS community and a massive demonstration at the FDA's headquarters calling for

freer access to experimental AIDS treatments, that the approval process for drugs treating life-threatening diseases was condensed. Also, in recent months, AIDS activists had been able to secure from Young concessions on new AIDS drug access programs, including the still-in-process "parallel track" program.

"From the perspective of AIDS we really could do a whole lot worse," stated Jean McGuire, executive director of the AIDS Action Council. "He ultimately did a lot to help move the issue [of AIDS] forward, even when he was being recalcitrant, because he was very visible." ▼

Craig Spence Found Dead in Boston Hotel Room Summer Sex Scandal Figure Videotaped Suicide Note

by Cliff O'Neill

BOSTON—Craig Spence, the flamboyant conservative lobbyist at the center of a summer-long D.C. sex scandal involving a male escort service and midnight tours of the White House, was found dead Nov. 10 in a Boston hotel room, the victim of a suspected suicide.

Dressed in a black tuxedo with tails, a white bow tie with white suspenders, black shoes and black socks, Spence, 49, was discovered in a room of the Ritz-Carlton hotel lying on the king-sized bed, wearing his glasses, carrying personal papers and three dollars in his pocket and with the

phone cradled on his shoulder.

In the false ceiling of the bathroom, police found several small packets of Xanax, a prescription anti-depressant, with one tablet removed. Police however, have not yet confirmed a cause of death.

Also in the bedroom, Spence left his will and his birth certificate carefully arranged alongside a final message written on the mirror with a black felt tip marker.

"Chief, consider this my resignation, effective immediately," he wrote. "As you always said, you can't ask

See SPENCE on page 32

News

NEA Head Waffles, Then Relents, On AIDS Show

But Controversial Catalogue Is Still Not Funded



TOOK THE 'FUN' OUT OF FUNDING
NEA Chairman John Frohnmayer

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

by Ben Currie

NEW YORK—In keeping with his week-long pattern of indecision and equivocation, National Endowment for the Arts Chairman John Frohnmayer announced Thursday that despite his various objections, he would indeed allow *Artists Space* to keep \$10,000 intended to fund "Witnesses: Against Our Vanishing," a show of paintings, photographs and sculptures "celebrating the indomitable spirit of a community of artists hard hit by AIDS."

Frohnmayer had revoked the grant on November 3, citing the recently-legislated "Helms amendment," which prevents the NEA from funding "obscene" art, and an essay in the show's catalogue by gay photo-essayist David Wojnarowicz which Frohnmayer called "political rather than artistic in nature."

He re-instated the grant on the day of the show's opening, on condition that it only go towards the arts works and not the controversial catalogue.

Wojnarowicz's essay is highly critical of numerous well-known gay-bashers and persons thought unsympathetic to AIDS issues, including John Cardinal O'Connor, whom he describes as a "fat cannibal from that house of walking swastikas."

In a statement released last Thursday, Wojnarowicz criticized the gallery for making statements "that seem to use the fact that I have AIDS as an excuse for the tone of my writings."

He also expressed disappointment with *Artists Space* for not fighting the NEA to restore the grant without the conditions he imposed, which many observers saw as a token

gesture made by Frohnmayer in a desperate attempt to save face.

The 23 artists exhibited in the show released a statement read at a press conference by artist Allen Frame which stated in part, "It enrages us but does not surprise us that by expressing ourselves on the subject of AIDS, we are now under attack."

Throughout much of the furor, Frohnmayer stubbornly stuck to his "too political" rationale, but eventually backtracked considerably in the face of widespread criticism as the arts community and others rallied around cries of censorship. By last Tuesday he had told the *New York Times*, "I think I used the word [political] inadvisedly."

On Wednesday night, in an interview on the MacNeil Lehrer News Hour, he said, "I made a mistake by using the word 'political.'"

When asked at a Wednesday press conference by an *OutWeek* reporter to clarify exactly what his actual objections to the show were, Frohnmayer said there was a discrepancy between the show itself and what *Artists Space* had described in its grant application, and that parts of the show "lacked artistic merit."

Gallery director Susan Wyatt calmly framed her responses to Frohnmayer's actions around freedom of speech and freedom of expression concerns, insisting all the while that the gallery had a contract with the NEA and would not return the funds.

Wyatt had written to the NEA in October requesting that the show's catalogue not be funded by the NEA grant. "It was a tactic on my part," she said. Wyatt says she acted to head off a situation in which "titles and phrases" would be used by enemies of

public funding "as political tools."

Wyatt's point of reference was last summer's ongoing drama surrounding the public funding for art galleries that exhibited Andres Serrano's "Piss Christ," which depicts a crucifix immersed in a jar of the artist's urine, and a retrospective of photographs by gay artist Robert Mapplethorpe.

"In a pure world the catalogue is worthy of public support," Wyatt said. "I came up with a reasonable compromise. It didn't compromise freedom of expression, didn't put public funding for the arts in jeopardy and didn't compromise the artists in the show."

Frohnmayr's wavering position led some in the AIDS and arts communities to voice the suspicion that homophobia and a general ambivalence about AIDS were the root of his actions. The newly-appointed NEA chief resisted characterizing any of the art in the show as "obscene," but said he thought several of the pieces were in "questionable taste."

But homophobia never surfaced in the mainstream media as a major aspect of the story. When Wyatt and Frohnmayr debated on Wednesday's MacNeil Lehrer show, the subject did not arise, although Wyatt later said, "I think it's [homophobia] a big problem. I don't think it's an accident that this show was picked out."

For his part, Frohnmayr remarked that he is "personally invested" in the issue, adding, "I think that homophobia is a problem in our society." He also said that although he is legally prevented from lobbying to repeal the Helms amendment, he thought the legislation "superfluous. I think it's unnecessary and we will certainly work for its removal," he said at a press conference last week.

Prior to the show's opening, Frohnmayr attended a closed-door meeting at the TriBeCa gallery with 35 representatives of the arts community, which one attendee characterized as a "working confrontation" at which Frohnmayr was taken to task on a number of issues vital to the arts community, as well as the lesbian and gay community, which overlap considerably in New York.

Aldo Hernandez of Art Positive, a group that fights censorship and homophobia in the arts and has already called for Frohnmayr's resignation, said Frohnmayr's initial decision was a "clear case of trying to keep up the invisibility of lesbian and



WHAT WILL THE NEIGHBORS THINK

Sign across from Artists Space Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

gay [art] work, and the AIDS crisis."

At a press conference last Wednesday, Inverna Lockpez, the President of the National Association of Artist's Organizations, an umbrella group for artists, accused Frohnmayr of allowing the "perception to evolve that he is caving in to homophobic tactics of a few congressmen."

The arts community appeared united on several fronts, including a universal endorsement of the "peer panel process" used by the NEA to determine funding priorities. Many from the arts community took Frohnmayr to task for not upholding the prior determinations of the peer panel that approved the *Artists Space* exhibit.

Paul Richard, an art critic at *The Washington Post*, characterized the exhibit as relatively "innocuous and mild" compared with the build up in the press. "Sure it's art," he said adding that hypocrisy and sanctimony have been prevalent in politicians dealings with the art world.

The reason, he said, was due to "fear of below the belt issues, a fear See NEA on page 64



FUNDER WONDER
Artists Space's Susan Wyatt

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

News

"You don't bring your lover to a troop meeting" Lesbians in the Girl Scouts



Photo: Patsy Lynch

Fighting Invisibility is a series of occasional articles on subjects not often discussed in relation to the lesbian community. This is the third article in that series.

by Jorjet Harper

"Many, many girls fall in love with their counselors," said Sheila Zelenski, who has directed Girl Scout Camps in Illinois and Wisconsin. "The reason is that the camp environment allows you to experience things outside of yourself. When you go to camp you've left your everyday life behind."

"Lots of dykes get into the scouts

as campers or staff, and work their way up in the organization," said Jane Austen, a 26-year-old Midwestern lesbian Girl Scout camp director, who, like all of the women quoted in this article who are still involved with the Scouts, spoke only on condition of anonymity. "Most of the women I

the Girl Scouts early this year to work for another service organization, cautions that this isn't always the case. "There's a perception that camp is so dykey, so butch. Right away a lot of people who are homophobic think, 'girls *learn it* there—it's always camp people.' But there are lesbians in all phases of Girl Scouting, whether in outdoor programs, urban programs, training leaders, at the national staff level and the council level. Every single area has lesbians in it."

FIGHTING INVISIBILITY

know who are lesbians and work for professional Girl Scouts are from camp, and move up the ladder from there."

Zelenski, who left her job with

Up the Ladder

The Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. has about 750,000 adult members, almost

entirely women. About one percent is paid professional staff, and the rest—troop leaders and local level administrators—are volunteers. The organization's national headquarters is in New York; 334 local councils cover every geographic area of the country.

Surely there are enough former Girl Scouts/current lesbians for an entire story of their own. But there are also gay women among the leadership and volunteer ranks of the organizations as well.

While there is obviously no way to verify the figure (see sidebar), Karen Gotzler, a Milwaukee businesswoman who worked as an administrator at a Midwestern Girl Scout council for four years, said that among the Girl Scouts' paid professional staff, the percentage of lesbians is much higher than the often cited ten percent estimate of the general population.

Lower down in the Girl Scout hierarchy, toward the level of troop leader and local volunteer, Gotzler observed, one is more likely to find heterosexual mothers, "whereas if you're talking about the professional staff, the percentage of lesbians is much higher. Let me give you a rough estimate—I'd say at least 30 percent. I'm trying to be fair. My first instinct is to say more than half, but keep in mind that I was more likely to seek out those lesbians. So there probably aren't as many as I like to believe."

Pat Reddeman, who worked for two different Girl Scout councils in the late 70s and early 80s, agreed. "I'd say there's a very very high percentage of lesbians that are hired as professional Girl Scouts, and for obvious reasons: Most lesbians are single or supporting themselves or dependent on their income and therefore need careers. It's a great organization to work for because you're working predominantly with women; and lesbians—or let's just say unmarried women—are a lot more mobile than a married woman who has a family and is tied to a town because of her husband's job."

"Professionally speaking," said Eleanor Roosevelt (not her real name), a 40-year-old lesbian from California who has been involved in the Scouts since she herself was a Brownie, "I think

what drew women to the Girl Scouts for years is the chance to be a professional in a field that had more opportunity. In the Girl Scouts there really aren't many men to deal with, as there are in teaching, where principals, typically, are men. But in the Girl Scouts, it's wide open for women, and the top positions are held by women. It's a very feminist philosophy. And that's one reason, certainly, that I loved the Girl Scouts—it was teaching girls to be independent."

Roosevelt, who worked for a number of years at the national headquarters in New York, also agreed with the roughly one-in-three figure. Girl Scout Headquarters has a staff of 500.

"At the national office there are a lot of older lesbians who wouldn't in a million years come out," said Roosevelt. "They may not even be lesbians sexually, but they are woman-identified from day one, and have lived with other women their whole lives."

Zelenski also thought the 30 per-

cent estimate was about right, and agreed with Gotzler's view that they are clustered in the administrative jobs. "I think there's a fraction of volunteers and troop leaders who are gay, but the majority are straight moms. But I also feel that some of those volunteer moms who are married and in the heterosexual schtick are lesbians who are frustrated, and the companionship and camaraderie and the feelings they get when they interact with other leaders is their way of fulfilling that part of their being."

Another lesbian, working in a Southwestern state, estimated that in her council the percentage of lesbian paid professional staff was "maybe 70 or 80." But another said that she works in a council office with 16 employees, and there were only "three of us."

There are definitely a few lesbian troop leaders, too. Ann Johnson became a leader, as is often the case when her daughters became old

Scout's Honor

I fell in love for the first time at Girl Scout camp.

I was 14 and she was 18—my counselor. I was a militant atheist New York City kid and she was a fresh-faced butch devout Mormon from the western hinterlands.

Obviously it was doomed from the start.

Oh, but how we'd sit late at night for hours by the campfire, long after the other campers had gone to bed, involved in intense religious discussion. It wasn't theology that was sparking our passionate discourse—Bunky (not her real camp nickname) and I were both confused and scared by the attraction we were feeling. After I moved up to a different unit, she'd show up at my tent late each night—secretly hiking through the woods without her flashlight—to give her favorite camper a chaste goodnight kiss. I waited for her every night.

We're talking stone age here, not Stonewall—1962. The word feminism was not in our vocabulary. And I couldn't possibly be one of those outcast, mysterious "lezzies" I'd heard whispered rumors about, I thought with a pounding heart.

Somebody found out about our late night rendezvous, and Bunky was forbidden to spend time with me, which of course frightened us even more. Now we knew we were being watched.

At the end of the summer, Bunky pressed her yellow Girl Scout tie into my hand (I kept it as a treasure) and went off, with her wholesome sincerity, idealism and Roundup hat, to South America to work for the Peace Corps. I went off to a murky teenage existence in the big city to desperately try my hand (in a manner of speaking) at being heterosexual. (I was not successful.)

In this post-Stonewall age, I often wonder what happened to Bunky. I keep hoping I'll run into her at some women's music festival or other.

Bunky, if you're out there, hon, give me a ring—we can reminisce about the "good old days" in the closet at Girl Scout camp.

Apparently that closet still gets a lot of wear and tear. We just had no idea how big it was. —J.H.



Photo: Patsy Lynch

enough to be Girl Scouts. She was a troop leader for six years in a Midwestern blue collar community.

"I didn't hide that I was a lesbian, but I didn't advertise it, either," she said. "You don't bring your lover with you to a troop meeting, for instance. I know that if most of these parents had known I was a lesbian, they would have pulled their girls out of my troop."

Johnson said she knew of three other troop leaders in her council who were lesbians, said they all felt similarly. "We try so hard to come away from those old myths, but they still exist—the fear that the children will be harassed."

"I love working with kids, I always have. They're easier to communicate with sometimes than adults. It's the parents who have the prejudices." Johnson, now a grandmother, raised two natural children and 12 foster children—most of whom were troubled teenage boys when they arrived at her home. All of her children know that she's a lesbian, and, she said, "they all come home for Christmas."

"If anyone point blank asked me, I would never lie to them. But surprisingly enough, nobody ever asked."

Virginia Woolf (not her real name), a troop leader in Texas who has been with the scouts for 40 years, also believes she would lose her troop if parents found out she is gay. But she too, has never been asked. "In their heads some of them may know, but as long as it's not brought up, they can live with it," she said.

How do lesbians in the Girl Scouts find each other? The same way they do everywhere else. They meet in

concerts and at bars, they wear some kind of pin or symbol and see who comments on it, they "throw around telling innuendos." And especially, they meet through other lesbians.

"When I first took the week-long training in 1975," said Gertrude Stein (not her real name), who worked in the scouts for ten years, "we picked up the roster of who was there—about 30 or 40 of us—and we'd start checking off people who were gay. Then every time we'd go to an executive staff meeting or to the national conference, we'd get the roster and do check marks." With typical Girl Scout pluckiness, it became a thing to do that involved more and more players. "We began calling it 'the checks,' and if you walked by someone and said 'check,' that meant you knew they were gay."

"We had an elaborate scheme. To be a check you had to be for sure. We had slash marks for people we thought were but we didn't know. Then we had X's: people we thought were, but they didn't know. And zeros, for people we wished were, but weren't. We used to go to the

national conventions—six or seven thousand women—and do this, and laugh and hoot and bring people in from all over the U.S. and just have a great game of it," said Stein.

A Closet Stuffed with Cookies

Lesbians in the Girl Scouts work in a paradoxical closet: even though there are more of them than in most work environments, many of them feel that fact creates added pressure to stay hidden. One woman told me that if all the lesbians quit, the organization could not go on. On the other hand, many lesbian Girl Scouts say they believe that if they came out, the organization would become thought of as lesbian-run, and lose all its funding. "It's not like the Catholic Church, which will still have plenty of money even if all the lesbian nuns come out," said another.

Consequently there is a very high level of homophobia within the organization itself, despite its enormous lesbian population.

"There's no way that the board would tolerate an awareness that there were lesbians on the staff, because the people in the communities would not accept that. It's the same as if they found out a teacher was a lesbian," said Harriet Tubman (not her real name), 31, who works for an East Coast Girl Scout Council. "A lot of people have an image of what Girl Scouting is and what it stands for, who would never think that a professional Girl Scout could be a lesbian."

"I am of two minds about being closeted," said California's Roosevelt, "because I felt we needed to protect the Girl Scouts. We need to be sure lesbians are in there and to do that we have to hide them. They are the strongest women around teaching girls to be independent. They have the strongest feminist values within themselves personally. I think uncovering them would shut it all down. You have to remember who the supporters of the Girl Scouts are—the churches who give the meeting space, and the conservatives. Ultimately, I think the issue is the funding

sources. When you really look at who funds the Girl Scouts, you need to be careful."

Ten-year veteran Gertrude Stein was the only one who disagreed with this scenario. "I don't think Girl Scouting would fall apart if it were to recognize that some Girl Scouts are lesbians. I think to a lot of people that's fairly well known already."

But make no mistake about it—these women are scared. Not a single one I spoke with who is currently employed by the organization felt she could use her real name in this article.

"I need to tell you that I'm sensitive about this. We're talking about my career here and the way I feed my family," said Sor Juana Inez Ramírez de Asbaje (not her real name), who currently works for a council in a western state. "To do something to expose the Girl Scouts in conjunction with lesbianism is like slitting my own throat. Nobody would hire me in this country, and that's really the bottom line. I have witnessed incidents in my area where a rumor has literally destroyed a family in Girl Scouting. So the danger of talking about sexual orientation is extreme."

Still, the degree of openness varies from council to council. "There are councils where a lesbian will have her lover's picture openly on her desk, and others where the

lesbians go out of their way to wear heavy makeup and such just to disguise any hint of being dykes," said another current Girl Scout council employee.

"The higher up you go the more paranoid people get," Milwaukee's Gotzler added. "But I think that's gradually changing as younger people move higher up the responsibility ranks, because they are a little more likely to be out." In fact, said Gotzler, "there are some councils where nearly all the professional staff are lesbians. But as with any minority group, when there's a problem with any employee who's a lesbian, typically they blame her lesbianism and not the actual problem."

Some councils, each of which operates more or less autonomously, are reportedly considering revisions in their affirmative action statements to include secular orientation. But most of the lesbian Girl Scouts I interviewed see no likelihood that they will be able to be more out in the foreseeable future. Many of them told me that the situation can change "only as society changes." "Remember, we're talking about apple pie, the flag and scouting! It's going to take a long time."

"I don't think you can realistically believe it's going to be any quicker to change than the rest of the world," said Roosevelt. "It's going to be a long time." ▼

Meanwhile, back at headquarters...

Deborah Mason, manager of media relations at the Girl Scout National headquarters, said she could not put *OutWeek* in touch with any out lesbian girl scout staff who would be willing to talk about their experiences.

"That's one of the things we would never know, because we don't ask," said Mason. "We really have only two spokespersons—one is our national director and the other is our national president, and they certainly couldn't speak to the question you're asking. They wouldn't know."

When told that in speaking with former and present Girl Scout professionals around the country, there was general agreement among them that the percentage of paid professional staff in the Girl Scouts is around 30 percent, including at headquarters. She added, "I don't know how they would come to that figure. I don't know how they would know that because no one is ever asked about what their sexual preference or lifestyle is. As part of the hiring practice, that question would never be asked."

When reminded by this reporter that while no one may ask, lesbians do find each other, Mason said only, "I couldn't comment on that." —J.H.

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Abortion Rights Activists Mobilize in D.C.

Pro-Choice Forces Look Towards 1990 Elections

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—At a massive rally at the Lincoln Memorial, and at over 1,000 smaller gatherings nationwide, abortion rights advocates gathered Oct. 12 to put legislators on notice that, should they not support laws protecting abortion access, they will pay a price on Election Day.

At the largest of the day's rallies, hundreds of thousands flocked to the Lincoln Memorial to call on the nation's politicians to support abortion rights.

There, national abortion rights leaders joined members of Congress to declare the Nov. 7 election results in New York City, New Jersey and Virginia, where pro-choice candidates hammered anti-abortion Republicans at the polls, as a harbinger of things to come.

"Read my lips George Bush," blared one sign, "We'll remember in 1992," alluding to the president's anti-abortion stance and his recent veto of two bills allowing more liberalized funding for abortions.

"We say to the political leadership of this country and to the Supreme Court and particularly to President Bush, we will not go back," bellowed Molly Yard, president of the National Organization for Women.

Yard and others all called on participants to support only pro-choice candidates in future elections and to specifically put their weight behind the four pro-choice women who will be running for governor in the 1990 gubernatorial races.

One of those women, former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein, who will be running for governor of California next year, also took the



NO CHOICE = DEATH

Faux marble monument on DC mall

Photo: T.L. Litt

podium to support rights as did a myriad of other pro-choice politicians. Among them was Sen. Bob Packwood (R-OR) who, along with Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA) will be again intro-

ducing a bill which would ban states from limiting access to abortion before fetal viability, or afterwards, if the life of the mother is in danger.

See ABORTION ACTIVISTS on page 24

NGLTF Links Abortion, AIDS, Lesbians

by John Zeh

WASHINGTON—Thousands of pro-choice heterosexuals rallying here November 12 were challenged to broaden their movement by matching homosexuals' support for their cause with pro-gay and anti-AIDS activism.

The result would "institutionalize" privacy and enlarge the scope of the reproductive rights struggle for all

people, promised Urvashi Vaid of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

"Stand with the gay and lesbian freedom movement," she said in her first speech to a huge crowd as NGLTF's executive director. "If you are our allies, let us move beyond the static 80s policy of coalition into a dynamic 90s politic of being true partners for social change."

Vaid, who was a last-minute

addition to the speaking schedule and did not appear on the program, said it was fitting for a lesbian to speak because her sisters "have worked hard and moved the pro-choice agenda forward at every level." The mobilization to educate people about pregnancy options and the power of increased political involvement had been encircled in controversy, partly because key lesbian participation had been uncertain.

"It is past time for you, our non-gay friends, to commit the same support to our urgent struggle for justice and equality," Vaid said from a platform just outside Lincoln's statue. "Our presence...linked in arms with you...is a signal of a new relationship between movements for freedom in a new era of political cooperation and interaction..."

Vaid asked for help from the pro-choice movement on these fronts:

- Vote anti-gay politicians out of office,
- repeal sodomy laws in 25 states and D.C.,
- speak out and help organize when hate-motivated harassment and violence erupt and
- help keep gay and lesbian civil rights ordinances on the books.

"We will never return to the



BORN AGAIN?

Photo: T.L. Litt

Pro-Choice demonstrator

tyranny and terror of the closet," she said. "We will win by holding true to our vision of freedom, justice, liberation and self-determination for all people."

Wary of recent privacy-related decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court, 490 groups were listed as supporting the action. "Lesbians and gays have a deep, visceral understanding of the importance of the right to privacy," said mobilization director Sheri O'Dell of NOW, the events' primary sponsor. "Roe v Wade is grounded in the right to privacy, a right which all

of us have a stake in, not just women. The Supreme Court in 1973 decided Roe, recognizing the right to an abortion.

"NOW welcomes the support that gays and lesbians have demonstrated for the reproduction rights movement. Their work has had a significant and beneficial impact," O'Dell said.

But New York City's ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) "refrained" from endorsing until mobilization leaders promised lesbian presence on stage. "We believe that

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NOW does not recognize lesbian and AIDS issues as part of the reproductive rights agenda...[and], historically, NOW has not recognized lesbians as being equal members," said ACT UP's Garance Franke-Ruta prior to NOW's adding Vaid to the platform.

NOW okayed a resolution in 1971 recognizing that lesbians face a double oppression. In 1975, it made achieving lesbian rights a national priority. Four years later it endorsed the first National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Other resolutions affirmed its support for lesbians' rights in custody and adoption efforts, in the military and in teaching or other work with children. A survey last month by *The Washington Blade* of 12 national women's groups showed that NOW employs a full-time staff member working on lesbian issues.

"AIDS activists are firmly committed to the [pro-choice] issue because there will be no self-empowerment in the AIDS movement if women are not allowed to control their bodies," said Steve Busby of ACT UP/Boston. "People with AIDS [PWAs] are also confronted with the issue of having control over their bodies. It's unlikely a PWA will have control over what drugs he or she will [be given, or when] if women are denied the right to make decisions affecting their own bodies," he said.

"To a large extent, women's rights issues are gay and lesbian civil rights issues," said McFeeley, HRCF's new executive director. "By working in coalition with women's and civil rights groups, we not only advance efforts toward equality in general, but specifically for gays, lesbians and people with AIDS."

The Pennsylvania House in late October became the first state legislature to pass a bill limiting abortions. It requires a 24-hour waiting period before the operation, forbids one after 24 weeks unless life is threatened and requires notification of the husband except in special circumstances. The state Senate took up the measure the week after the mobilization. ▼

—Tracey Conaty contributed to this article.

ABORTION ACTIVISTS from page 22

As has now become the custom with D.C. demonstrations, event organizers estimated the crowd at 300,000 strong, while U.S. Park Service officials put the crowd at half that size. Last April's event was estimated by organizers at 600,000 while Park Service officials gave out a 300,000 estimate.

As they did last spring, anti-abortion forces again filled the grounds of the Ellipse with miniature crosses and Stars of David as what they called the memorial to the "unborn innocents." About 30 anti-abortion protesters held a small vigil throughout the rally.

As a memorial to the women who have died from illegal and unsafe abortions, abortion rights activists came up with their own tribute, a large imitation marble facsimile of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Flanked by the photos and stories of six women who have died of illegal abortions, the "Unknown Women's Memorial" was surrounded with flow-

ered wreaths and an almost surreal silence.

One of the women, identified by the pseudonym "Cathy," was shown only in silhouette. "Cathy...didn't want to disappoint her parents or friends," her story read, "so she told no one when she realized she was pregnant. To avoid getting her parents' consent, she self-aborted. When she became seriously ill, her parents, who had no idea what was wrong, rushed her to the emergency room. Ill and in severe pain, as she was, "Cathy" kept her silence while doctors gave her an antibiotic and sent her home where she died.

"Cathy" was a victim of Indiana law PL-106 which requires parental consent for an abortion," the placard said. "Cathy" was 17.

The inscription on the wooden memorial was equally stark. "In memory of the courageous women who died from illegal unsafe abortions because they had no choice," was all it read. ▼

AIDS and Abortion: A New Link

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON—In the wake of a recently announced federal ban on fetal tissue research, AIDS activists and lawyers are now carefully examining connections between the controversial research and the search for a cure for AIDS in contemplating a legal challenge to the prohibition.

The increased attention to the issue came after a Nov. 2 announcement by Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis V. Sullivan that the National Institutes of Health will now be banned from engaging in research using fetal tissue.

In a letter to the director of the NIH, making permanent an 18-month moratorium on fetal tissue research imposed last year, Sullivan said the possibility that fetal research could encourage abortions outweighed the possible benefits from such research.

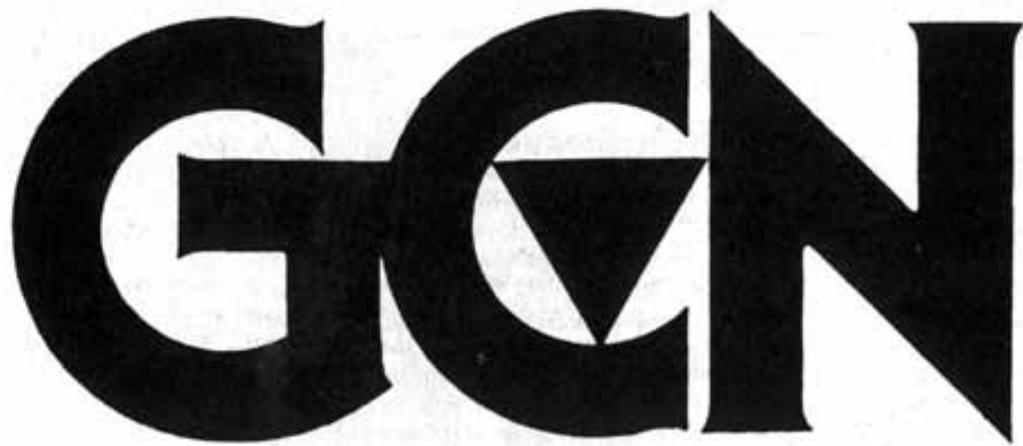
"[A]fter carefully reviewing all of the materials," wrote Sullivan, "I am persuaded that one must accept the likelihood that permitting the human fetal research at issue will increase the incidence of abortion across the country."

But the HHS decision to clamp down on the cutting-edge research has raised the ire of medical researchers and AIDS activists.

"The whole idea that fetal research encourages abortions, is sort of like saying the use of cadavers is encouraging murders," stated Greg King, communications director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a gay lobbying group in Washington. "They're cutting off all research, and when you do that, it only sends the research overseas," he added.

Fetal tissue research, now gaining heightened attention from scientists, involves the use of aborted human fetuses to treat a myriad of illnesses, ranging from Parkinson's disease to birth defects. Because fetal cells have properties which are much more adaptable than adult cells, investigators have been looking into transplanting fetal cells into adult bodies to replace damaged or diseased cells. Presently, there is no federally financed AIDS research under-

See AIDS AND ABORTION on page 51



Gay Cable Network

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November 23

10:30 pm

- Gay Week in Review
- Act-Up
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- Sports
- Lavender Health

Andy Humm & ACT UP vs. the Catholic Church: debates over tactics

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Out Takes

Dinkins' gay agenda, part II

NEW YORK — In keeping with his promise to genuinely reflect the diversity of what he likes to call New York's "mosaic" population, a gay man and a lesbian will sit on mayor-elect David Dinkins' 21-member transition committee.



DAVID DINKINS

Photo: Miriam Fishman

Thomas Stoddard, executive director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, and Marie Wilson, executive director of the Ms. Foundation for Women, a commissioner on the New York City Commission on Human Rights and a member of Lambda's board, will join 19 other notable New York political figures, including Dr. Mathilde Krim of the American Foundation for AIDS Research, in recommending people to fill high-level jobs in the coming Dinkins administration.

Stoddard said he hadn't expected the invitation and was "a bit startled" when he received a phone call from Dinkins himself inviting him to the panel's first meeting last Wednesday at noon.

The New York civil rights lawyer called his and Wilson's appointments

a coming of age for the lesbian and gay community, adding, "We are permitted to participate in the most important decisions that a government can make, and at the highest levels."

While Dinkins' inclusion of the gay community came as no surprise to her, Wilson also expressed wonder at her own appointment, which she called "an exciting opportunity to have some input." She said she came away from Wednesday's meeting with "a real sense of history and opportunity," adding, "I'm thrilled that gay people have a chance to be a part of that history."

"Mr. Dinkins' intention, when the selection was made, was to include representation of all groups, especially groups that have been historically underrepresented," Dinkins spokeswoman Anabel Franceschini told *OutWeek*. "There are a number of gay and lesbian individuals in key positions in the Borough President's office, and he intends to keep this policy in his new administration," she said.

— Andrew Miller

Wellcome welcomes unwelcome

LONDON—Wellcome, the British drug company that AIDS activists say overcharges for the anti-HIV drug AZT, has provided \$1.5 million to fund a comprehensive British survey of human sexual behavior.

The survey—the first of its kind since Alfred Kinsey's landmark study in 1948—had been nixed by Britain's conservative government because Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher felt the questions would be "an inappropriate intrusion into people's private lives."

But the Wellcome Trust, a charity which owns 75 percent of Wellcome,

PLC (known as Burroughs Wellcome in the U.S.) quickly approved the funding when approached by the survey's steering committee.

"The results will be vital for the understanding of sexual behavior," explained Trust director Dr. Peter Williams. "There are no reliable and up-to-date facts on the subject."

Known as the "National Survey of Sexual Behavior," the two-year project will question 20,000 adults between ages 16 and 59. According to *Capital Gay*, a London gay newspaper, "once the survey is complete it will replace the 'Kinsey Report' as the most comprehensive study of human sexual behavior. And, as Mrs. Thatcher may have suspected, it will reveal facts about sexuality, abuse and 'deviancy' which some people would prefer to keep buried."

—Rex Wockner

Wall fall

WEST BERLIN—As millions of East Berliners cross the Berlin Wall into the West, what are gays and lesbians doing with their new freedom?

Shopping, of course.

"It's difficult to speak in general," said Jörg Schultz, a staffer at West Berlin's gay radio station Eldoradio, "but for the most part, gays do what everybody else is doing—endless shopping. The gay places are completely overcrowded with very curious East Germans—certainly the sex shops because there's nothing like that in the GDR [German Democratic Republic]."

Since the East Germans have very little hard currency and erotica is very expensive in Europe, what do the East Germans do in the gay sex shops?

"They just wander around in amazement," said Thorsten Bratke, a clerk at Bruno's Sex Shop on West Berlin's main shopping street, the Kurfürstendamm. "Unfortunately, they can't buy anything because one

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Out Takes

West German mark equals ten East German marks. A magazine would cost [\$120].

"But they are completely astonished," Bratek continued. "How is it possible?" they ask. "I've never seen so many openly and obviously gay things!" they say. They don't know where to start—with the videos, the magazines, the sex toys?"

Bratek estimated that 6,000 East Berliners passed through his store in the first three days the wall was open.

If porn is economically out of the East German's reach, many gay and lesbian pubs and clubs are not. According to Schulze, the clubs operated by activists are accepting East German marks on par with West German marks.

"Everybody knows they don't have any money," Schulze said. "In a lot of places, everything is just free."

Mann-O-Meter, West Berlin's gay switchboard, has received "hundreds and hundreds" of calls from gay East Germans, according to volunteer Bernd Steinhauer. "They want every single detail about the subculture," he said, "where to go, what to do, how much it costs."

The Lesbian Information hotline, however, has not received a single call. Volunteer Rita Stueber said she believes lesbian East Berliners are contacting women in the West through private channels.

On Nov. 12 Eldoradio broadcast two hours of interviews with gay East Germans. "The fundamental question," according to Schulze, "is whether they will now spend their evenings in the West or use the impressions they get here to try to establish the same things in East Berlin."

There are two gay organizations in East Berlin, under the auspices of the Communist Youth association. According to Schulze, the city also has a gay disco, two gay pubs and an unofficial gay restaurant. A number of smaller gay and lesbian groups are connected with churches.

West Berlin's gay newsmagazine, *Magnus*, has had three reporter/pho-

tographer teams roaming the streets of the city and plans to publish extensive reports on the East German invasion later this month.

According to the Nov. 15 Daily News, newly-appointed East German Premier Hans Modrow said the Berlin Wall would stay open but remain standing to keep out AIDS.

—Rex Wockner

NY artists read this

NEW YORK—The Fund for Human Dignity, Inc., the national gay and lesbian education organization, has announced that it is accepting proposals from lesbian and gay creative artists in New York State who seek funding to pursue their work in 1991.

The Fund will apply for grants for selected individuals to the New York State Council on the Arts, as it has done for the past five years, acting as middleman to help the individual get through the process of applying for the grant.

"The arts are the soul and spirit of our community," Fund Executive Director Sherrie Cohen told *OutWeek*. "We are pleased to help nurture and provide support to the people who often provide inspiration for all of us."

Past recipients of grants include historian Jonathan Katz, authors Irena Klepfisz and Darrel Yates-Rist, photographers Bob Giard and Mariette Pathy Allen and filmmaker Richard Schmeichen, who directed the academy award winning *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*.

The Fund for Human Dignity was created in 1974 as the educational foundation of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and currently operates the nation's only toll free crisis line, 1-800-AIDS-800, which reaches out to over 2,000 callers per month. The Fund also conducts edu-

cational workshops, operates a comprehensive resource center of lesbian and gay educational materials, and implements the Positive Images Media Campaign which seeks to educate the media on community concerns.

Interested individuals have until January 1, 1990 to submit a resume, cover letter indicating the creative project they would like to pursue in 1991, and relevant samples of their work to: Lesbian and Gay Arts Program, The Fund for Human Dignity, 666 Broadway, Suite 410, New York, New York 10012. For more information, call (212) 529-1600.

—Keith Miller

Gay in twin cities

ST. PAUL—Gays and lesbians should benefit from the recent municipal elections in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Progressives within the Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) party strengthened their hold on politics here. Twelve of 13 Minneapolis city council seats, and six of seven St. Paul city council seats, will be held by DFLers.

Openly gay Minneapolis city council member Brian Coyle (DFL) was easily re-elected with 80 percent of the vote. Two incumbent city council members were defeated by progressive DFL candidates.

Pat Scott (DFL) defeated the flamboyant Barbara Carlson (Ind.), a proponent of domestic partner rights who once gave her children condoms for Christmas. Jackie Cherryhomes (DFL) narrowly defeated Van White (DFL), the first Black man elected to the city council.

The DFL retained the two mayor's offices. Minneapolis Mayor Don Fraser, who faced only token opposition, was easily re-elected. St. Paul city council member Jim Scheibel (DFL) won his campaign for mayor.

against Bob Fletcher, an independent candidate with Republican ties.

Scheibel's election is particularly exciting for lesbians and gay men. He is a strong supporter of gay rights, and his election should ensure the reinstatement of St. Paul's gay rights ordinance, which was taken away in a 1978 initiative and referendum vote.

Progressive DFL city council members are certain that there are enough votes to pass domestic partner benefits for Minneapolis city employees. Members of the city's civil rights commission are lobbying for a city-wide domestic partner ordinance.

—David Anger

"Creating change"

BETHESDA, MD—Over 500 gay and lesbian activists from communities as disparate as Iowa City, Iowa and San Francisco, California descended upon the Bethesda Holiday Inn over Veteran's Day weekend with a singular vision in mind: creating change. And, attending the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's second annual "Creating Change" Conference, in a wide array of workshops, the collection of national executive directors and local volunteers tried to learn how to do just that.

Drawing a parallel between the spectacular changes in East Germany a day earlier and the work of the activists gathered, NGLTF board co-chair Jim Holm opened the conference by recounting a scene from the previous evening's news. Holm spoke about a young man who climbed atop the Berlin Wall, carrying an umbrella, to face the East German water cannons. When they stopped firing at him, Holm stated, the man reached down to help another man up on the wall to freedom.

"I can't think of a better coming
See OUT TAKES on page 64

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Obituaries

Cookie Mueller, Actress, Author and Critic, Dies at 40



Photo: Nan Goldin

Cookie Mueller died in New York on Friday, November 10, of cardiac arrest due to AIDS. It was just two months to the day after the death of her husband, cartoonist Vittorio Scarpatti, also from AIDS.

Wild flower-child, visionary, mother, writer and actress, Cookie did not fall easily into any category. She would call herself bisexual, but that is hardly an adequate description for her far-reaching personality. Open minded, strong willed and soft hearted, she could put a smile on the face of the most dour tragedienne. For Cookie, to take a disturbing situation and turn it

into situation comedy was a sublime act for which she had an adept facility. In her hands bad times became merely awkward passing moments. And though she never became very rich or completely famous, Cookie was always successful as a woman who lived fully and without compromise, aided, abetted and adored by many in the gay community.

Cookie blew into town in the mid-1970s dressed in sling-back high heels and a black monkey-fur jacket, her son Max and their two dogs in tow. Having already achieved cult status through her hysterical, slightly lisping performances in three of John Waters' most head-spinning films, *Multiple Maniacs*, *Pink Flamingos* and *Female Trouble*, she then conquered the environs of Christopher Street. With her vixen eye-makeup and trademark tangle of white-minxed high hair, she had a flamboyant, irresistible sexy style. Even those who couldn't appreciate it were felled by her humor and unselfconscious warmth. Not exactly a humble person, she was nonetheless always generous:

the worst she could say about those she judged harmful—the homophobes and bigots—was that they were "stupid."

She established her reputation in New York as a madcap heroine of the underground nightclub scene by appearing at Max's Kansas City in the 1976 *BB Steel Revue*, a boozy quartet whose members included Dreamland Studios favorites Edith Massey, Susan Lowe and Cookie's longtime partner and companion, Sharon Niesp. Soon afterward she began writing the holistically inspired, parodic letters column, *Ask Dr. Mueller* in the *East Village Eye*. She gave readings at the Pyramid for the gay magazine *Straight To Hell* on a regular basis and, boosted by these, later became a popular feature of the St. Marks Poetry Project.

Lacking any formal education, she used her native intelligence and benevolent spirit to acquire and disseminate, in t

He *Art And About* column for *Details* magazine, her very special view of art and the people who make it. For seven years she found in that space a forum for her considerable social conscience as well as a chance to display a gift for art-world gab.

Cookie was also a prolific and largely unrecognized writer of wonderfully funny, gentle short stories. They appeared in *Bomb* magazine and the anthologies *Just Another Asshole* and *Wild History*. She also wrote three books: *How To Get Rid Of Pimples*; *Fan Mail, Frank Letters and Crank Calls* and the forthcoming novel *Walking Through Clear Water In A Pool Painted Blue*. Read them and one easily discovers the sharp wit and fondness for the lost soul that made her so endearing.

When she died, though deep in a coma and tortured by very labored breathing, she winked her goodbye to those gathered beside her. It was a fitting gesture from an amazing woman who provided our often sad times with instruction, entertainment and a whole lotta heart.

—Linda Yablonskaya

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SPENCE from page 15

others to make a sacrifice if you are not ready to do the same. Life is duty. God bless America.

P.S. To the Ritz, please forgive this inconvenience."

As Spence had arranged the room's other bed and a chair in front of the door, to prevent anyone from entering, police officers had to saw through the door to enter the room.

The Washington Post reported Nov. 13 that shortly before his death, Spence had called a friend of his in Virginia and stated he was going to kill himself. Yet, when the man called the hotel to warn them, hotel officials did not find Spence's name on the register. Apparently, Spence had registered himself a "C.F. Kane," the lead character in Orson Wells' *Citizen Kane*, Spence's favorite movie.

A conservative power broker once primarily known for his glamorous D.C. parties where he played host to the government's right-wing power elite, Spence became more infamous early last summer when the conservative *Washington Times* began a steady stream of stories about him. Linked to a male escort service under investigation for credit card fraud, Spence was reported to have been among the service's biggest clients, at one point spending \$20,000 a month on the service.

The pipe-smoking Spence was known as an unusual figure who, once profiled in *The New York Times* as a powerful right-wing lobbyist, became increasingly bizarre by telling people he was an agent of the CIA and that his parties were bugged for blackmail purposes. On one occasion he listed his occupation as "millionaire."

Reports of his taking secret midnight tours of the White House, his being given a piece of Truman china and his alleged bribery of a White house security guard led to Spence's sudden disappearance once the stories surfaced.

On July 31, Spence was arrested in a New York City hotel room along with a male prostitute and charged with possession of an illegal weapon and a small amount of crack cocaine.

Soon thereafter, in an exclusive interview with *The Washington Times*, Spence revealed that he had become depressed after being diagnosed with

AIDS and had been contemplating suicide.

A day after he was found dead, friends of the late scandal figure made available to *The Washington Post* a videotaped goodbye made by Spence and sent out to his friends two weeks before his death.

Having ordered a video production firm to tape a seven-minute "video postcard," Spence sat in his leather chair and rambled about his dog, the charges against him and his life, but made no reference to any intentions to kill himself.

On the video, Spence joked about his Maltese, which he said was maligned by the press as being a Terrier, and lambasted *The Washington Times*, which he called "a local cult-owned newspaper," a reference to the paper's connections to the Rev. Moon's Unification Church.

As enigmatic in death as in life, Spence spoke of the "puzzle" of his life that no one would ever figure out, ending with, "I'll close by telling you I'm sure that in the end the truth will come out and this too shall pass. Now, I may be naive about my optimism, but I'm an American, proud of my country and confident of the fairness of its people. So take heart, good friends, and share that pride and that confidence with me. Good night and God bless." ▼

—filed from Washington

KRAMER PLAY from page 13

is happening in."

The Normal Heart, which was written in 1983 and first produced at the Public Theater in New York City in 1985, has had over 600 productions around the world, including broadcasts on state television in Poland and the Soviet Union. In Ireland, the government felt its message to be such an important educational tool that it paid for a tour of the play around the smaller towns outside of Dublin, according to Kramer, who called the events in Missouri "another example of the unbelievably deeply embedded homophobia that has allowed AIDS to remain unattended."

Kramer said the school's administration, including President Dr. Marshall Gordon and Dean of the School

of Arts and Letters Bethany Oberst, have "been terrific," adding that "they haven't budged an inch" in their support of the rights of theater students to produce the play. Representatives of the ACLU reportedly informed university officials that a First Amendment suit would be brought against them should the play be cancelled.

Because of the controversy, the eight scheduled performances of the play sold out in just three hours. The local bookstores also report brisk sales of the book version of Kramer's award-winning autobiographical chronicle of the beginnings of the AIDS crisis in New York City, which includes scathing indictments of, among many others, the administration of lame duck Mayor Edward Koch and the established gay leadership of that time.

And Paul Kincaid, a university spokesperson, said the play's run would go on as scheduled. "We're in it for the long haul," he told *OutWeek*, adding that he himself liked the play. "It's very powerful, and it raises awareness about AIDS. No one can go in and watch that play and come out feeling that it promotes homosexuality," but conceded that even if he felt it had, he would still support its presentation.

Ironically, the incident occurred just two days after a benefit reading of the play in New York with Colleen Dewhurst and Brad Davis, that raised thousands of dollars for the AIDS Treatment Registry.

A fund has been established, and the university is helping Evans with housing, clothes and food, and the local Red Cross has offered to pay his first months rent and buy him new furniture. "I feel like a poster child," Evans joked.

Many famous actors and playwrights have attended the university's well-respected theater department, including Lanford Wilson, Kathleen Turner, John Goodman and Tess Harper, who returned to the campus last week to lead a protest against Citizens Demanding Standards. Springfield is in the southwestern corner of Missouri, east of Wichita, Kansas and Tulsa, Oklahoma. ▼

—filed from New York

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Political Science

In The Belly of the Beast

ACT UP Crashes the A.C.T.G.

by Mark Harrington

The East German authorities opened the Berlin Wall with more good grace than those running the U.S. AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) displayed when ACT UP/New York arrived in Bethesda for the ACTG's quarterly meeting. NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci had invited ACT UP twice, but his deputy, Dr. Dan Hoth, who heads the ACTG, desperately attempted to rescind the invitation. ACT UP had already conceded to Hoth's request not to go in July, and they weren't going to wait again. So Dr. Hoth vented his bureaucratic spleen at the opening plenary session, going out of his way to polarize the activists from the scientists who conduct the ACTG's myriad clinical trials.

In an enormous ballroom, packed with 820 people who live off the hundreds of millions of dollars dispensed annually by the ACTG, Dan Hoth mounted the rostrum to give an opening pep talk. After lavishly praising the preliminary results from trials 016 and 019—trials whose data still has not been released, five months after they were announced in a press conference—Hoth segued into another, far less comforting topic:

The issue of constituency representation at the ACTG has been precipitated by ACT UP/New York. Against our will, they have sent four representatives who are here today. We did not invite them and we wish they were not here. Nonetheless, we did not wish to provoke a physical confrontation by at-

tempting to secure their exit. They will not be permitted to talk in any of the meetings.

Hoth thus poisoned the atmosphere before the meeting even began. The activists, along with an Institute of Medicine panel charged with investigating the ACTG, were forbidden to attend about two thirds of the meetings, including committees where most of the research on opportunistic infections was discussed. The ACTG system thus remains shrouded in secrecy detrimental to its own re-



search effort and to the lives of people living with AIDS.

One would think the ACTG has something to hide. It does—its own massive, bloated, costly, bureaucratic track record of failure. The outrageous fact is that people with AIDS have gotten very, very little from the hundreds of millions of dollars spent on AIDS treatment research in the 1980s. Not one new drug has emerged from the ACTG system to treat any of the complications of HIV infection. Whatever drugs have emerged—alpha interferon for KS, aerosolized pentamidine for PCP prophylaxis, DHPG for CMV retinitis and the treatment INDs for EPO and DDI, have emerged from pharmaceutically-sponsored research or, in the case of DDI, from

the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

The ACTG should be renamed the AZT Clinical Trials Group, for that is virtually all it has effectively tested. When AZT's antiviral activity was discovered in 1986, the ACTG refused to test it, saying it lacked the capacity. So the Phase I trial was carried out at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Phase II trial was carried out by the manufacturer, Burroughs Wellcome, itself.

Once AZT was approved, however, the ACTG threw itself enthusiastically into AZT trials. At one point last year, just about 90 percent of the 7,000 people enrolled in ACTG trials were in AZT trials. Over half the total subjects were in the recently suspended trials 016 and 019, testing AZT in people with early ARC or without symptoms.

As San Francisco Dr. Donald Abrams noted last week, these trials, in aggregate, delayed the progression to AIDS in about 44 of their 4,200 patients—a bonanza for Burroughs Wellcome, since 1,000 people might take AZT to delay AIDS in 10. As Dr. Abrams said, "Burroughs might welcome a false positive result."

The most egregious scandal of the complicated series of AZT trials is how long it has taken for scientists to admit lower doses of AZT are better than the high dose prescribed for the last three years. One researcher admitted last week that "We have found no dose of AZT so low that its efficacy is extinguished"

In other words, thousands of people have developed anemia and neutropenia, become blood-transfusion dependent and been forced off sight-saving drugs like DHPG or life-saving cancer chemotherapy because the dose of AZT was *unnecessarily high*. Trials are not being de-

signed using as little as 150 mg/day of AZT (50 mg every eight hours)—way down from the 1,200 mg/day generally prescribed.

So is the ACTG rushing out an "AZT Advisory" telling people to cut down the dose? No—it is rushing out a "DDI Advisory" warning people about DDI's side effects to scare people away from the expanded access protocols and into their controlled DDI trials. Moreover, the ACTG is gearing up to blame the activists and the Parallel Track expanded access program for all its own problems. Accrual in the new DDI studies was delayed for weeks by bureaucratic obstacles—changes in dosage formulation, protocol revisions, repeated IRB approval and delays in delivering drugs to the trial sites—while the expanded access program signed up about 1,000 people. It's not our fault that their system is so slow and unresponsive. Yet one researcher "applauded the vigilance" of the investigators who are monitoring accrual zip-code by zip-code to see if people who "should" be signing up for the controlled studies are opting for expanded access instead.

When will these people wake up and realize that the old days of coercive trials with narrow inclusion criteria and cruel restrictions on drugs taken off protocol are over?

In the meantime, the ACTG is putting most non-DDI or DDC studies on hold for the next nine months. Their old data analysis center at Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina proved unable to handle the volume of data generated by ACTG studies. Now data will be sent to Harvard's Statistical and Data Analysis Center (SDAC). But for the meantime, no major trials for any new treatments for the OIs will start for nine months. Saving the lives of people with AIDS seems to be the last thing on the ACTG's mind—after all, not only lives but millions of dollars in research grants and pharmaceutical profits, along with careers and articles in prestigious medical journals are on the line.

We could let them know how we feel next June, in San Francisco—but it would be better for everyone if we did it a whole lot sooner. ▼



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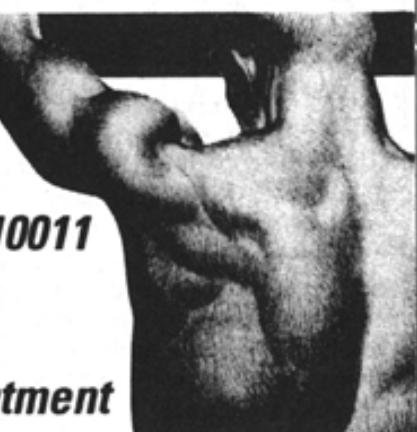
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GAY BROADCASTING SYSTEM

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Commentary by Susie Day

Two weeks ago, I wrote a short column suggesting that lesbians make money by using, not losing, our highly-evolved political principles. Today, not one of us is any richer. So I have decided that we must widen our horizons and embrace brave, new methods of money-grubbing. Mail fraud and extortion, for instance:

Dear _____:

This letter has been sent to individual human beings who possess the ability to do a better job of governing the United States than the entire Bush administration. So far, it has gone around the world nine times and shows no sign of stopping!

You will receive GOOD LUCK within one week if you make 20 copies of this letter and mail them to anyone who wants to stop AIDS, house the homeless, get the U.S. out of Central America and hang Jesse Helms upside down in a meat locker for not less than ten days. GOOD LUCK will follow. Then, to insure your GOOD LUCK, mail a check for \$11.95 to the National Coalition for the Economic Liberation and Defense of Lesbians Especially Susie Day (NCFTE-LADOESD).

Do not keep this letter. It must leave your hands within 72 hours!

This is NO JOKE.

Little Katinka Lundgren, a seven-year-old Norwegian farm girl, did as this letter requested, and, within one week, received a spanking new fallout shelter, her very own capsized Russian fishing trawler and a Fullbright Scholarship to the North American university of her choice! Zsa Zsa

Please do NOT ignore this letter. It works! Let's help keep the world safe for Social Change!!!

Dear Ronald McDonald:

You homewrecker. I hate your guts. You have just broken up a five-year lesbian relationship.

Remember Brooklyn?—Your *in-person* appearance in the parking lot at the McDonald's just off the B-Q-E?—After the show?—*Bebind your tour bus???* Well, that was MY GIRLFRIEND you were messing with, Baggy Pants! Lucky I had my camera with me.

I should have suspected something the day my ex started talking about the Golden Arches being a form of ancient female symbology, and what a cool guy you must be not to be threatened by that. But I can't live in the past...

I think you should know that the entire Brooklyn womyn's community is talking about flying out there to McDonaldland and tearing the sesame seeds one by one off your disgusting little buns. They say they won't tolerate one more lesbian getting involved with one more straight white male clown.

Me, I tend to be a bit more moderate. The way I see it, you have two choices: EITHER your shocking squeeze-fest gets smeared across the cover of *The National Enquirer* ("Ronald McDonald Made Me Feel Like a Real McWoman!", Sighs Former Lesbo"), OR you can put \$25,000 in a plain brown paper bag and leave it by the dumpster in that Brooklyn parking lot. Do this before next Thursday, or you will never see your reputation again.

You Can Run But You Can't Hide
— "The Sagaris"

P.S. I have the McNegatives.
They're not McPretty

So how about, fellow lesbians?
Let's stop yearning and start earning.
Since it's so hard to be selective, we
may as well have it all. Later on, we
can figure out what to do with it. ▼



Gabor, on the other hand, "forgot" about this letter, and now has to make amends to the entire lesbian prison community. Ex-factory foreman Bob Overstreet of East Lansing, Michigan, spitefully destroyed this letter and awoke the next morning to discover that life had passed him by. Seven days later, Bob died. Bob was not what you would call a superstitious person, either.

Anti-bias Group Targets:

GLAAD Tidings is a regular weekly column by the Gay And Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Its purpose is to help readers identify and directly respond to homophobia in the media and in society. All items will contain names and addresses of those perpetrating homophobia, and we urge our readers to take the time to express to them our disapproval of their bigotry.

Texas Homophobes

The Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct is about to give bigots the green light to go out and beat up, or even murder, gays.

Earlier this year Judge Jack Hampton of Dallas stated that he gave a lighter sentence to a convicted murderer because the victims were homosexuals. In a published interview at the end of the case, Judge Hampton stated that, "These homosexuals, by running around on weekends picking up teenage boys, they're asking for trouble. I don't care much for queers cruising the streets picking up teenage boys." He added that, "I put prostitutes and gays at about the same level. And I'd be hard put to [sentence someone to] life for killing a prostitute."

The judge's statements provoked a national uproar in the lesbian and gay community. Gays demanded that Texas' Commission on Judicial Conduct investigate the case.

Now, in a preliminary report released to the press, an investigator for the commission has stated that the judge "would be impartial in any case that came before him," including those involving victims and defendants who were homosexuals.

The only thing more blatantly anti-gay and pro-bigotry than the judge's original remarks is the strong chance

that the commission will condone them.

There is one fact we can take heart in: the decision is preliminary. If we make enough noise, we may be able to reverse it before it's announced later this month.

Help us let the commission know that the eyes of the nation are on them as they prepare to trash the human rights of gays and lesbians. No words can be too strong in the letters you send to them. Write to:

Robert C. Flowers, Exec. Director; TX State Comm. on Jud. Conduct; PO Box 12265; Capitol Station; Austin, Texas 78711

Censoring of Pentagon Report

Nothing upsets homophobes more than the truth about gay people. The most recent proof of that is a battle in Washington over a report prepared for the Defense Department entitled *Nonconforming Sexual Orientations and Military Suitability*.

A couple of years ago the Pentagon set up a research center to study whether particular personality traits correlate with people being good or bad security risks. The center was asked to study the security risk posed by gay people in the military. Their report found that gays pose no greater security risk than straights, and encouraged the Pentagon to rethink its entire policy of banning lesbians and gays from the military.

The Pentagon is aghast at this challenge to its anti-gay policy—a policy that is being challenged in courts throughout the country. The military has not accepted the report and has tried to keep it confidential. They complain that the scope of the report goes way beyond the question originally asked. But, as its author notes, if the

report had supported instead of undermined current policy, the Pentagon would have welcomed it with open arms and would be trumpeting its conclusions in the media and the courts.

While certain members of Congress have read the report, it is still not available to the public. It should be. Homophobes in the Pentagon have no business suppressing the truth about gay people.

Congressperson Patricia Schroeder of Colorado has been leading the fight to make the report public. We urge you to write to her to support her efforts, and also to urge your local Congressperson to join with her. The address for both is:

U.S. House of Representatives; Washington, D.C. 20515.

—Craig Davidson
and Karin Schwartz

GAY \$\$

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one that should be

excercised judiciously.

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MODEL QUEEN ARIANE IN ISAAC MIZRAHI

Photo: George Wayne

FLASHIN' FASHION PASSION

Fashion. The coolest of us say we don't care about it. Then we spend hours trying to get that mussed up, care-free, "I-don't-give-a-shit-about-my-clothes" look.

Let's face it: As lesbians and gay men, we have a bizarre and close link to style. For many of us, it's our way of telling the rest of the world what we are, since, unlike other oppressed minorities, we aren't always so easily pinned out. So, the boy puts on earrings, the girl puts on combat boots and—BINGO! Instantly a fag and a dyke!

From CoCo Chanel down through Jean Paul Gaultier, we have always been the fashion makers. We've consistently set style and we've constantly been copied, ripped off, exploited. But hey, this is one of our "special contributions" to society, right?—even if we don't get any damned credit! We grin, bear it and fly on to some all new trend. We'll always come up with something fresh. "Style is in our blood," we tell ourselves, "from when we were kids".

In fact, as children, many gay men found themselves obsessed with women's wardrobes, causing quite a few of us to stand in front of the living room mirror wearing mom's high heels. Some of us never took them off.

And now, many dykes are coming out of the closet about their secret concern with what's hanging in their closets.

Okay, so the haute couture collections are examples of how men oppress women in a sexist society by forcing them to dress in ways that men want to see women—as sex objects. Okay, so none of us can possibly afford any of the clothes which are made for and sold to our oppressors—the ladies who lunch. Okay, so many of the clothes just aren't right for us anyway, even if we could afford them. Okay, so the entire fashion industry is one big money-making machine.

But let's just stop being so picky for a moment. Fashion is fun, and a lot of us admit to partaking of its whimsical pleasures. We want to see the collections and we want to talk about style, style and more style. We're hooked. Fashion junkies who just can't seem to find the Grace Mirabella Clinic for The Terminally Trendy.

So now, *OutWeek* talks fashion, with George Wayne covering the doings of the designers and the voyeurs of next season's apparel, while a specially selected group of *OutWeek* contributors gives the real dish on being queer and looking hip.

—Michelangelo Signorile



A Gossip's-Eye View of the New York Collections

Text and Photos by George Wayne

CAROLINA HERRERA, The Plaza Hotel

We opened the season with a collection the blue-blooded Venezuelan contessa said would herald "a new modernity." But poor Herrera was having delusions of grandeur, for hers was one of the worst offerings of the season. The tired black linen dresses with which she opened the show lacked inspiration, and it went all downhill from there. The series of evening gowns inspired by the Faberge egg—can you imagine—proved too much of a stretch for Carolina. And she showed some garish evening gowns of chiffon that only the likes of Imelda Marcos and her daughter could possibly want to wear. It wasn't all bad however. She showed a fabulous hearts and stripes adorned day suit, and her gazar cocktail dresses were gorgeous. In fact, the outfit of the show came from this series: number 36, a fabulous fuchsia, orange, pink gazar plaid dress with a flowing chiffon caftan which the Kenyan model Katoucha worked flawlessly down the runway.

The fashion bessies too, were out in full force for this very disappointing Herrera presentation. When I got to the show, the knock-kneed Bianca Jagger, dressed in a very ordinary black pants outfit was pacing the check-in desk trying to find her assigned seat. Estee Lauder was there; the uptown queens like Jerome Zipkin and jewelry



LUSCIOUS CINDY CRAWFORD AT GIORGIO DI SANT'ANGELO

designer Kenneth Jay Lane were there as was Ivana Trump whom I almost did not recognize at first glance. My God! Ivana looked 20 years younger. Did she have a face-lift? That was one of the more pertinent questions of the season.

Grade D for dud.

I Am A Closet Deb

by Sarah Pettit

As we hurtle recklessly toward the millennium and the world as-we-know-it assumes an ever diminishing level of coherence, it's important for a girl to get her kicks where she can. While the locusts descend, the stock market teeters and East Germans dance on the Berlin Wall, every one of us should feel confident in pursuing our particular perversities. In accordance with such a descent into the carnivalesque, I have resolved to allow the fashion queen in me to have her head.

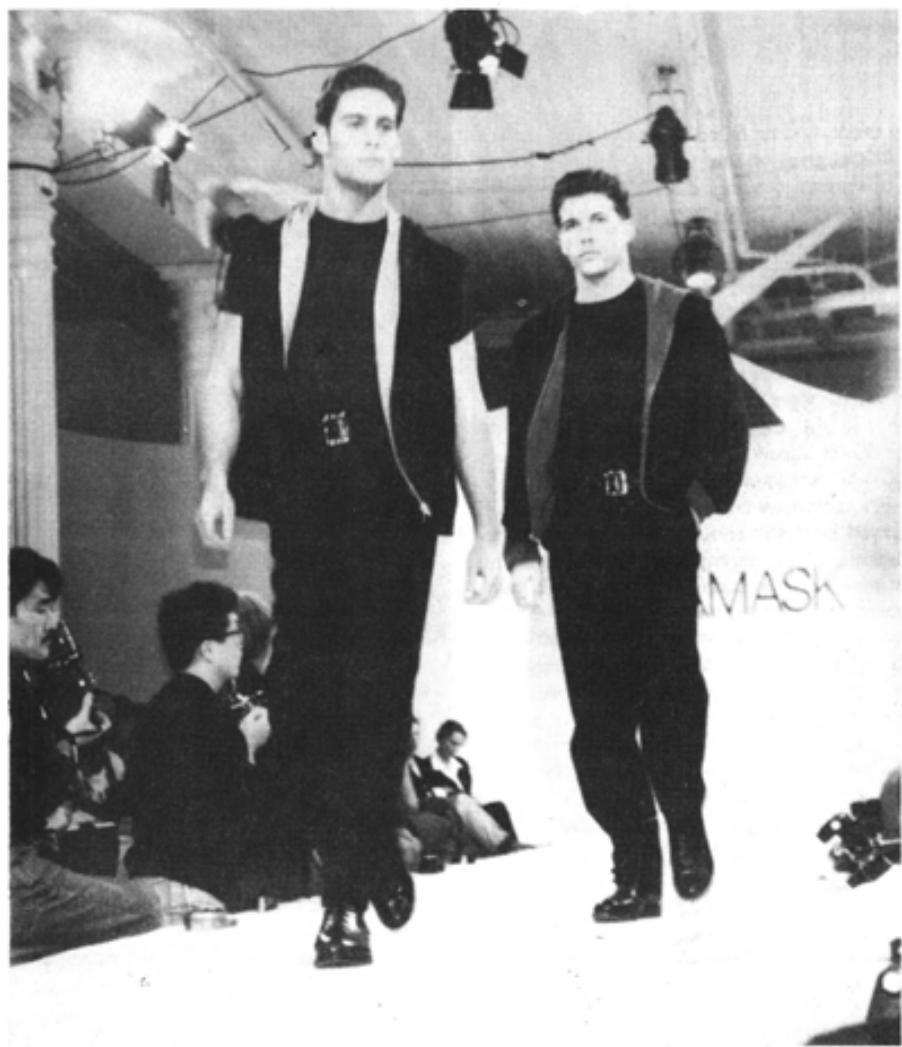
Ironically, the outward signs of this resolution are not very manifest. I continue to don 501's, banker's shoes, the

ubiquitous leather jacket. Yet, in my mental landscape, an endless runway show plays itself out. The camera bulbs pop, the insipid soundtrack pounds and the leggy, pouty divas do their turns. I am a slave to fashion, but look like a schlump.

My predilection finds fodder everywhere. There are the newsstands chock full of beseeching fashion mags. One night, mentally impaired by the strain of PMS and too many Amstels, I came frighteningly close to spending \$16.95 on an issue of *Italian Vogue*. It would have meant tuna sandwiches for a week. Then there are the banter-filled fashion news programs. Never one to rise at the cock's crow, I am nonetheless prone before CNN's "Elsa Klensch" every Sat-

urday at 10:30. It is an eternal source of chagrin that "Attitudes" airs during work hours. Finally, I am forever siren sung into the cold, distant reaches of boutiques, willing to endure the haughty demeanor of the saleshelp in return for a quick feel of the merchandise or a glance at the throbbing video monitor.

I once checked the Lesbian and Gay Community Center's listings for a rap group that might address this driven passion, but it seems not to have found resonance in the lesbian community to date. But then, why should I stop? To everyone in the street I have the outward bearing of your lay-lesbian, while in my head Ungaro, Chanel and Christian Lacroix battle it out.



THE BOYS ON SHAMASK RUNWAY

MICHAEL KORS, West 24th Street Loft

In retrospect, the Michael Kors show was not as bad as thought at initial viewing. It wasn't that bad, but it wasn't that special either. At times it looked "very Marc Jacobs" or "very Isaac Mizrahi." The designer's biggest failure was his inability to deliver "The Michael Kors woman." This show lacked the designer's personal signature. Elsa Klensch, the famous CNN fashion reporter, was more diplomatic, however, and thought the show "very pretty, very modern, right in step with everything that's happening." There were some very cute, very fresh pieces from this Kors Collection like the chocolate/white gingham cotton gaberdine apron dress and the long shirt coats. And he did play the song of the season in his show—Tracy Chapman's "For You."

Grade B for brilliant knock-offs.

CAROLYNE ROEHM, The Plaza Hotel

Carolyne Roehm showed up rival uptown designers like Herrera and her mentor Oscar de la Renta. This was the second best show seen all season. Carolyne Roehm is now a fashion heavyweight, a leading American designer (for the very, very rich women at least) as we head into the next decade. Her designs, simply put, are haute couture ready-to-wear.

Last season she seemed to take some inspiration from Singapore, this year it was Nairobi, showing a series of wonderful safari wear. Iman, whose mother Maria was in the audience wore a gorgeous lace trimmed silk caftan over this long sleeved dress. It was just one of many ecstatic moments. Ivana Trump was again at this show, and it was here that I heard from an Ivana insider that yes, Mrs. Trump has undergone extensive facial refurbishing. "She had everything done, I'm pretty sure it was in Brazil," the wag told me, "and she changed make-up consultants." Rumors continue to swirl about Donald Trump's philandering. The latest tale has him buying a Mercedes Benz for former model Carol Alt. Poor Ivana is feeling the pressure to keep up with her tycoon husband. Barbara Walters was also at this show looking terrible. Ivana

The End of Style: Fashion's Grim Reaper

by John Voelcker

Who says gay people are always stylish?

True, some are **Fashion Forward**, with that lucky sense of style that lets anything they wear show up on Paris runways six weeks later. Others are **Fashion Victims**, who desperately want to be **Fashion Forward** but just don't quite have IT—yet still manage to stay six months ahead of most people.

And there are the **Fashion Average**: the gays and lesbians who dress like "everyone else." These people have an average amount of flair; a good sense of which belt looks best with that very slightly risqué shirt.

However, few people realize that a small and exclusive group of us occupy a **VERY special niche** in the fashion food chain. We are the grim reapers of fashion. We are **Fashion Death**.

For instance: Did you ever notice that all of the cute guys and stylish lesbians in New York stopped wearing black penny-loafers right after Christmas 1987? Now it can be told: I caused it. It's true. After deliberating for four years, worrying about whether it would be too radical a statement, I finally took the plunge and got myself a pair. The day after Christmas that year, I walked into Church's on Madison, and— gulping deeply—plunked down the cash and strode out in those shiny, new shoes.

Almost immediately, every self-respecting dyke and boy-about-town looked into their closet with a new view: "Oh, god, those awful penny-loafers. They just look so...TIRED."

Instant fashion death.

And this happens repeatedly. In many cases I don't even have to go beyond thinking about buying something before it goes out of style.

Certain clothes are immune: 501s, white t-shirts, all-cotton oxfordcloth button-downs and denim jackets. (High-tops are right on the edge; so are bomber jackets.)

I'm resigned to my fate by now. Besides, you have to admit that a closetful of identical oxfordcloth button-downs—six white and six blue—make dressing in the morning much easier.

But, watch out. I've seriously been considering...a black leather jacket.

You have been warned.

should definitely give her the name of her plastic surgeon.

Grade A for absolutely gorgeous.

MICHAEL LEVA, Mannequin showroom West Side

Michael Leva's show was a rather disappointing event, and he failed to catalyze on his very good fall show of last season. I hated the turf of artificial grass on the runway, and the clothes were a bit too young and immature. This leading downtown designer did not have the polish and execution of last season. He did, however, play Twiggy's "To Sir With Love" as one of his runway tunes. Hot choice.

Grade C for can do better!

RONALDUS SHAMASK, Puck Building

This fashion show had the most controversy surrounding it of any this season. Ronaldus Shamask divorced himself from the business partner Murray Ross and the company which still holds his designing name—Moss/Shamask. Moss/Shamask went for the power play and decided to host a fashion show under the Ronaldus Shamask label even though Shamask had made it vehemently clear that he has nothing to do with this company nor this collection. Even so, strong rumor had it that Ronaldus Shamask himself was backstage during the show, although he did not appear at show's end to take the designer's customary accolades as the Top 40 tune "Sowing the Seeds of Love" by Tears For Fears, played ironically enough over the sound system. It was a surprisingly great presentation nonetheless. The energy level was high in the Puck Building. Things were very informal; fashion mavens were eating candy and fruit, photographers were traipsing across the runway in search of better vantage points. The models cavorted and flashed their tits during the show. It was definitely the campiest presentation of the season. Shamask, as usual, had the gorgeous boys, the only New York show that regularly features men, and he used one of the Hot boys of the moment, Nicholas. I loved most of the stuff which held on to that fresh, colorful Shamask signature. Ronaldus Shamask always goes his own way, and it most always works. The Shamask show had the best lighting of any, all the better to closely analyze Iman's orange hair. What happened Iman, is the California sun bleaching it out? You know she moved to L.A. to become an "actress."

Grade A for great effort.

BETSEY JOHNSON, Parsons School of Design

Betsey Johnson's show is always the one to break up the monotony of fashion week with



BETSEY JOHNSON'S SPRING TRIP

The Top in Fashion: A Style Guide To the Girl Who Takes Charge

by Liz Tracey

"But baby, if I'm a bottom, you're the top..."

When lesbian fashion makes a statement, does it ever ask, "I want to be your top woman?" When your clothes speak, do you hear, "Seize me, ravage, make me eggs in the morning"? Where butch/femme leaves off, tops and bottoms begin. A few points to remember:

"Not all butch women are tops; not all femmes are bottoms."

"There is now an awareness of passivity as an active role not a personality flaw to be overcome in the 'struggle.'

"Top and bottom doesn't necessarily mean S/M roles, either. Think about it. Enough said."

Now, in the context of fashion, there seem to be a few distinct types of tops. This is by no means a comprehensive list. So if you suddenly find yourself with an

unlisted top, don't say I didn't warn you.

1) The Old-fashioned Top. This woman is likely to show up in family wedding albums wearing a nattier tuxedo than all the men, and favors ties on the weekends. The shoes are beyond sensible; they're downright Florsheim. Young OFTs are often caught at the age of six wearing their daddy's sanitation uniform, standing on street corners, yelling, "Hey, chickie! Can I go with you?" to little blonde girls in frilly party dresses. Tell-tale signs: keys on a chain hanging from a belt, permanent press shirts and bags from HBO hanging in the closet.

2) The Rock N' Roll Heavy Metal Slut Top. Although one can say two words and hit the nail on the head, these women deserve a little more. All the following things are worn in black: leather, spandex, eyeliner, lipstick, hair, nail polish, motorcycle (their bottoms always wear these items in white or pink). There may be chains, a dog collar and a Budweiser. Places to look: Trash and Vaudeville on St. Mark's Place, Usmar Lounge, Octagon.

3) The Preppy/Literary Top. Whether or not Fran Liebowitz is a lesbian, I would

bet big money that she's topping something on a regular basis. Her most recent comment on personal fashion: "I'm seriously considering buying new jeans." If these women do it for you, here are some suggestions: shop at Brooks Brothers, read GQ, hang out in Bloomingdale's men's department long enough, and you can meet the smoke-scented, whiskey drinking girl of your dreams.

4) East Village Boy Top. Unless you look REALLY HARD at these girls, you wonder what they're doing at the Duchess. And if you're a boy, you end up cruising them at The Bar. EVB girls look like the boys, dress like the boys (501s, t-shirts, boots, motorcycle jacket) and hang out with the boys. The difference: lipstick, hair length and a decidedly feminine dance style. Where to find them: The Bar, The Cubby Hole, Cave Canem, Mars. There are all sorts of cultural neighborhood variants on top fashion; I suggest a trip to Hatfield's for a mind-boggling game of "Spot the Top." But for those girls who love to be taken charge of, here's a place to start: My phone number is...

its zany comic relief. This one was no exception, though I saw only one thing that was at all wearable, and only a drag queen from New Jersey would want to wear it. The show was titled "La Boudoir de Betsey" which meant Miss Johnson, who was onstage throughout the show, took us through various stages of the day from "Wake Up Time" to "Cooking Time" with clothes she considered appropriate. There is nothing worthy to report about this show. "This is more like a fashion nightmare," one photographer shouted during the collection. We love your energy and your show-music Betsey, but you and your clothes are a bit too much. Great give-away T-shirt at show's end though, which moved Betsey Johnson's grade from a D to a C.

Grade C for crassly insane.

GIORGIO DI SANT ANGELO, Lower Broadway Penthouse

The Tribute Collection to Giorgio, who died earlier this year was just wonderful; very beautiful and very, very Giorgio. The most gorgeous silk gauze and mouseline fabrics were used in the most brilliant colors—turquoise, sapphire, carnelian, purple. "My style does not change, it evolves," the designer said almost a year before he died, and his chosen one, the new designer Martin Price, has done just that. Giorgio, I'm sure, loved this collection from wherever he was watching.

Grade A for absolutely darling.

ANGEL ESTRADA, Lower Broadway Showroom

Yet another "ghost collection" that came off very, very well. The death of the Spanish born designer Angel Estrada of AIDS earlier this year has forced his younger, even shyer sister Virginia Estrada into the limelight. She has taken over the design reigns for the House of Estrada and presented an absolutely sensuous, elegant collection very much in the mold of her brother's sultry, sexy, sophisticated evening wear. Silk crepe, chiffon, organza were the ruling fabrics, and Ms. Estrada held on firmly to the tried and true Estrada formula, but more importantly, updating it. The music was eerie but perfectly in keeping with the mood of the show. Everyone loved it, and I was more than shocked to see the usually heartless photographer from Vogue magazine, Roxanne Lowit, crying her eyes out at the end of this show.

Grade A for Amazing Effort Virginia.

ISAAC MIZRAHI, Mercantile Building

Isaac Mizrahi is America's new fashion king. It is as simple as that. The show was 90 minutes late, but the buzz and the roar during the show rivaled that of any Rolling Stones concert. Everybody was at this show except for maybe Isaac's L.A.-



THE BRIDES OF ISAAC MIZRAHI

Accessorizing Politics: Fashion Tips For Boys Who Do CD

by Jay Blotcher

Cloaking yourself in an anti-racist, anti-sexist, sex-positive philosophy keeps you politically pristine, but a good credo won't keep you warm. When selecting the clothes that serve as the ideal fashion/political statement, today's au courant activist faces a jarring dilemma. Is it possible to be à la mode without playing into the hands of the bourgeois, capitalist-pig clothing industry that exploits thousands of workers in the factories of Hong Kong and the American South every year? (You were shocked when you saw "Norma Rae.") Moreover, are second-hand clothes relatively blame-free? Or, finally, is fashion immune from the often confusing, no-win world of political correctness?

Activist panache, grounded in humanitarianism, apparently does not extend to the barnyard. Witness the plethora of leather jackets at your next ACT UP meeting. Or, better to believe that a number of cows went to their heavenly reward, content to know that reincarnation would see them adorning the back of some sash-guy as he lumbered through The Bar on Thursday night. These are the damning contradictions that drive people to form ad hoc groups.

There are, however, guidelines for activists with an eye for tasteful tenue. Rabblerousers who want to make a statement during die-ins usually opt for 50-50 polyester/cotton t-shirts with inflammatory sayings printed on the front. Not only do the anarchistic words give your tormentors an extra tweak, but these sturdy blend-material shirts resist tearing, even when dragged by a New York cop for several city blocks. While the doo-rag persists, its waning popularity is due in no small measure to the onslaught of winter, or the fact that "Faith" has finally fallen off the charts.

In the end, attitude is the most important accessory of true activist fashion. If you have the moxie to slice your dungarees at the knees, be sure you can fake a nonchalant attitude that tells the envious, "Oh, those holes? I guess the jeans just wore out." Practice before the mirror a few times before hitting your next demo. And the next time somebody slams you for walking Avenue A in ripped t-shirt, cuffed dungarees with swelling crotch, leather jacket and Doc Martens, look them in the eye and say, "Don't hassle me; I just threw on whatever was in my closet." You are under no obligation to explain that your closet holds seven variations of the same uniform.

DRESS UP! FIGHT AIDS!





HOT BOY MODEL AT RONALDUS SHAMASK

A Lesbian's Lust For Coco by Sydney Pokorny

For some of us, it is a grand passion. A simple shopping trip in which we are seized by a relentless desire to touch every piece of fabric (velvet, leather, lycra, silk, rayon, etc.) We are unable to escape the need to hold every sequined or embroidered jacket and cannot help but detour over to the rack of metallic sparkle shirts. We leave the store hours later, exhausted from sensory overload. For those of us who suffer from this affliction, the men and women who create the clothes we love are idols.

But most lipstick lesbians know there is only one woman who can fan the flames of our desire like no other. Her name is Coco.

Coco Chanel was the Madonna of the fashion industry (or Madonna is the Coco of the music industry, whatever). Coco was not a great dressmaker, just as Madonna is not a great singer. The secret to their success is self-promotion, both women proving that a highly visible image is more important than quality. Their ruthless pursuit of fame is often traced back to a broken family and humble beginnings. The ability to sustain a high gossip profile is another shared characteristic. Both experienced the standard plight of the successful woman, shattered love affairs with men, numerous lovers and a desperate search for fulfillment. (In the realm of sexual liberation, however, one difference is key: Madonna is a faux lesbian, a wanna-be, while Coco's numerous lovers included women.)

The whole wanna-be phenomenon was Coco's idea before Madonna's publicist thought of it. Coco was her own best model. She always wore her own designs. Coco encouraged the belief that any woman who bought Chanel also bought into the idea that she could be Coco, in all her glory. If she only wore the same clothes Coco did. Lately, the wanna-be thing has taken on a new twist since Lagerfeld took over the House of Chanel. Lagerfeld overstates some of the hallmarks of the Chanel style: faux gold chains, gold lamé, embroidery, beaded and jeweled fabrics and transparent fabric.

Maybe it is a latent uniform fetish, but Coco made great suits. I still gasp every time I visit (I am really only a tourist in Chanel land) a Chanel suit. I love the braided edges, the collars and those cute little buttons.

You have to love a woman whom Diana Vreeland trashed by claiming that "Chanel took an entire generation of kings and queens and dressed them like secretaries."

You have to love a woman who could outwit Diana Vreeland by saying things like: "Women are not flowers, therefore they should not smell like one;" "An elegant woman should be able to do her marketing without making housewives laugh;" "Jewelry isn't meant to make you look rich. It's meant to adorn you, which isn't the same thing. My intention is simply to demolish real jewelry." And, on the subject of miniskirts: "Who are they supposed to please? They hardly ever reveal attractive knees."

The entire Chanel look of the early 60s—my favorite look—is the neat, little haircut, simple black dress, some fake jewelry and red lipstick. I think it would be nice if *On Our Backs* would publish a Chanel issue where each page featured lesbians in a different look from the years 1961-63.

based boyfriend. You should have seen "Miss" Andre Leon Talley, creative director of Vogue, on "her" cellular phone. "Who are you calling, Madonna?" I shouted. It was Oscar de la Renta he was calling. Waiting for the show, I discussed with a wag the marriage of Mary McFadden and her boy-toy husband, a Columbia art history student. The wag informed me, that whatever I may think, Mary McFadden and her young husband are trying to make it work. "They actually share the same bedroom, and they actually sleep together, and have sex, yes they do."

Suffice it to say that Isaac was a standout. The trio of linen and ribbon dresses were a knockout and the gazar coats for those grand entrances, the peek-a-boo jackets, the slight wrap skirts, the denim trench coats were just hot, hot, hot.

Grade A for Awesome! Awesome! Awesome!

GEOFFREY BEENE, Pierre Hotel

Paloma Picasso was in the front row at this show. She "just loved" Mr. Beene as everyone always does. Maybe that is because the fashion bible, *Womens Wear Daily*, hates him so much, and treats him so badly for no good reason. As usual, Mr. Beene had strains of his unusual deft, understated genius throughout—slits and cutouts in the most usual places. "Mr. Beene understands the power of negative space, anatomical interstices are for him the most compelling body section," his program revealed. The fashion mavens didn't all stand in unison for a grand ovation, as they did last season, but when Mr. Beene twaddled down the runway at the end of the show there were many smiles and roars of satisfaction.

Grade B for blessed genius.

ISABEL TOLEDO, Lower Broadway Showroom

Isabel Toledo had the best downtown collection of the season. She is charting her own course and continues to grow from strength to strength with every collection. She does the best things with denim; gives it sophistication and polish which very few are able to emulate. Isabel Toledo may in fact be considered the American mistress of denim. Lace was her other fabric of the season. She presented a series that gorgeous women could wear from day into night. A very smooth, advanced presentation from the very consistent Isabel Toledo.

Grade A for Appeal! Appeal! Appeal!

KENI VALENTI, Seedy Space

This was the most low-budget New York fashion show I have ever attended. One can't fault Kini Valenti for trying, but honey, where did you find those third-rate models? And that awful sound system, and that dingy space to show your wares?! I don't think even Sears Roebuck would want anything from this collection either. "I want to be saleable," Mr. Valenti exclaimed in his program. Well, child, you have a very long way to go before achieving that goal.

Grade D for dog collection. ▼

Don't Forget the Active Wear...

by Victoria Starr

If you think fashion and activism don't mix, just look around. These days it's not enough to have an ideology. You have to wear it on your sleeve.

Take, for example, the New Alliance Party. Who could be more honest in their commitment to fine imagery than a group who runs a mayoral candidate on the slogan "She's Black, She's beautiful, She's Lenora Fulani"? It seems that the only question left to ask is "But can she dance?"

Or just marvel at the Revolutionary Communist Party, whose appeal to American youth can only be attributed to their "look." Whether it's the Uzis emblazoned on their T-shirts, or the fact that they have cornered the market on kafiyas (Palestinian scarfs), this group of renegades stands out in any crowd.

In the gay community, we too have our fashion ideologies. We're all too familiar, for example, with the white yuppie fags, replete with Calvin Kleins and pastel Polo Shirts. Equally infamous are the Park Slope "natural" dykes, who can't be missed with their Birkenstocks and baby carriages. But how many of you knew that many of the long-haired African-American women attending poetry readings at The Lesbian and Gay Community Center began dreading their luscious locks at the same time, affirming their unity with some socio-political group in the early 70s.

The point is that people who think alike often look alike. Just as you can tell an animal rights activist by their plastic

shoes (never mind what plastic does to the environment), it's fairly easy to spot particular dyke allegiances. Take, for example, the NOW dykes. Often mistaken for straight women, these women work within the system, and it shows. Donning suits, silk scarfs and wedge-cut hair-dos, some people

think they are the system. ACT UP women, on the other hand, have never been confused with the system. The defiant way in which they wear their rolled-at-the-knee jeans and colorful bras (a la Sandra and Madonna) proves that they will buckle to no power, not even the dead of winter.

The problem, of course, is when these groups begin to intermingle. In my neck of the woods it is becoming increasingly difficult to distinguish the drumming dykes from the co-op dykes, or the karate dykes from the softball dykes. Guess I'll just shave my legs, spare my underarms and hope that the truth reveals itself someday.



Pectoral Fash-ism

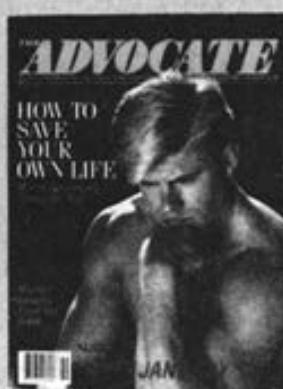
by Andrew Miller

His jewel-like blue eyes stare out at me from under a mane of straight blond hair that falls perfectly across his chiseled brow. His biceps flex effortlessly when he moves his arms, forming warm demi-globes as firm as ripe honeydews. His chest shimmers with a coating of impossibly blond fuzz, and his shoulders have that extra triangle of muscle. He's on the cover of the Advocate, and I hate his guts.

Whoever said "clothes make the man" was obviously heterosexual. Start with a culture of more or less fascist ideas about good looks, and add the inevitable spirit of competition between sex partners who have identical body parts, and your recipe yields a subculture in which the size of your pecs is infinitely more important than the fabric that's covering them.

Clothes do, of course, serve a function. The basic purpose of gay men's vestments is to display, as cleverly as possible, the wares beneath the wardrobe. But no matter if it's Gianni Versace or Fruit of the Loom, you've got to take it off to get it on. Design hounds can, however, take heart, because gay bodies are as styled, crafted, planned as the economy of Romania. And the concept is every bit as democratic.

I remember reading an article in GQ, back in the early 80s before Calvin Klein began gratuitously draping women over his big-dicked jeans models. If the then-current trend for big bulky



muscles, the article explained, were to someday be replaced with a passion for lean, chiseled frames, the transformation could be accomplished quickly and quietly.

But while this anecdote may strike even the most dedicated gym bunnies as somewhat perverse, consider the plight of those of us who must bear the cross of culturally incompatible body parts. Some of us are born with dark, curly hair, ungroomable moustaches and beards, genetic predispositions for narrow shoulders, or merely a dislike for Nautilus machines, and we find ourselves on the outside looking in at a culture devoted to smashing stereotypes and working its deltoids.

And while we all love licking a washboard stomach, we should, every so often, pause a moment in our rush down the stairs at the Locker Room to think about whence this pectoral fascism derives.

Sexual desire is as influenced by the prevailing white hetero upper-classist culture as anything else. And if you think there's a reason that 95 percent of the "desirable" men served up by the Advocate, GQ, International Male and a hundred other fashion sources look like their ancestors stepped off the Mayflower and onto Plymouth Rock, well, I guess I'd agree. (My own family arrived some years later, via Ellis Island.)

So by all means, pump iron until your abs quiver provocatively under your Gap Pocket T. But make room for the skinny, the hook-nosed and the otherwise alternatively beautiful.

MANHATTAN • • • SPORTS FINAL

DAILY NEWS

Sports

Tuesday, November 14, 1989 Sports starts on Page B2

Teufel stays put
Signs with Mets for two years
Bob Klapisch, Page B7



**JETS:
KEN'S
NO
BARBIE**

Walton and players
defend QB's courage

ON THE GRIDIRON: Cold-handed Ken O'Brien should be warm all over. The QB is getting a lot of heat from the Dolphins and media for not scoring when he failed to dive at the goal line Sunday against Miami. — Paul Needell, Page B2

While the more PC *New York Newsday* went with the headline, "Jets Defend O'Brien's Honor," the homophobic, misogynist sports editors at the *Daily News* opted for, "Jets: Ken's No Barbie," on the back page, while inside the headlines blared, "Macho do about O'Brien," and "Take it from Phil: Ken's No Coward."

What's it all about? Apparently super hunky Jets quarterback Ken O'Brien began running with the ball, heading for the end zone to score a touchdown, but stopped just short of scoring, and planted a foot on the goal line. It was, according to some, a way of avoiding being hit and tackled by oncoming players.

And so, the *Daily News* has decided that this kind of behavior merits calling Ken "Barbie" and that such cowardly acts are likened to behaving like a "fag" or a "girl." This from men who obsess about and play a sport where boys bump and grind, touch and feel, "go for a pass," "score," "tackle" and bend over with their legs wide open so that other men can reach between them. Go figure?



It's when you know your worth, your look, your place are all one chain machine. Buy clothes, integrate for individual style.

Herb Ritts, director of Ms. Ciccone's muscle-flexing extravaganza "Cherish," seems to be on a mad whirl. Here, Jody "Still A Thrill" Watley, bathed in Rittsian blanche/haute, poses for the Gap in what can only be described as a paean to our beloved sapphistry. Dig her. Doc Martens, torn jeans all asplay, the short, new bob, the tattoo. Fabulous, fabulous, fabulous.

-Sarah Pettit



OUT OF MY HANDS

BY BRADLEY BALL

Dear Brad:

My friends, Teddy and Tommy, who think everybody in the world should be as happy together as they are, had been trying forever to fix me up with Cliff who works at Tommy's agency. Since I've never been involved in one of these setups that wasn't an utter disaster, I kept declining. Last March the three of us were supposed to meet for dinner. Unbeknownst to me, they invited Cliff along and then made up some flimsy story about having tickets to *The Pajama Game* and rushed out of the restaurant. I could have killed them for such a shabby stunt but, surprisingly enough, Cliff and I hit it off and began dating. A month ago I agreed to move in with him.

One Sunday afternoon, Cliff was out walking his dog, Coefficient, and I decided to make room on one of the bookshelves for my Robertson Davies novels. I happened across his high school yearbook and, naturally curi-

ous to see what he looked like then, I searched out his picture. To my horror, the only activities listed under his senior photograph were four years in the math Club—two of which were spent as the Captain!!! The yearbook flew out of my hands, the room started spinning and for several dizzying minutes I thought the earth would open up and swallow me. Oh, if only it had. Just then I heard Coefficient running down the hallway and I barely managed to hide the book and compose myself before Cliff walked in and asked me if I was ready to go to lunch with Teddy and Tommy.

All through the meal Cliff sat across from me, telling jokes and appearing so perfectly normal, while I fought back the urge to rise up and scream out his dark and evil secret. Tommy asked if anything was wrong with me and Cliff said, "Wrong? Why he's as right as a 90 degree angle," and I broke my water glass.

Ever since that accursed day, my

life has been suffused with dread. Each night, after I'm sure Cliff's asleep, I take out that yearbook and force myself to read those ghoulish words again and again and try to understand how I could have been so blind. Sooner or later Cliff is bound to discover that I know the truth—as it is I cringe every time he approaches me—and I'm afraid of what he might do to me then. I gave up my rent-controlled studio and have nowhere to go. Besides, no matter where I run, Coefficient knows my scent and is probably trained to track me down. I thought about asking Teddy and Tommy for help but then I remembered how strangely insistent they were on this match and can only wonder how much collusion may be involved. You're my last hope. What can I do?

—Trapped

Dear Trapped:

First of all, you can stop blaming yourself for having been deceived. While the mathematically inclined are a particularly devious lot, which results from all those years spent solving story problems, the bitter fact is that *all* men are inherently treacherous. Think about it: aren't you now endeavouring to conceal something yourself? Remind me some day to tell you of a time many years ago—a time that could have been merry and bright—when I, too, was beguiled by a man and, as a consequence, witnessed the absolute destruction of my hopes and my dreams and a Steuben vase.

Secondly, far be it for me to dictate one's personal choice of literature but if you *must* read Canadian novels (and no one says you must; the Canadians certainly don't read them) you can do far better than Robertson Davies. I'd loan you my copy of Michael Ondaatje's *In the Skin of a Lion* but Maria Maggenti hasn't yet returned it.

How To Make A Latina Dyke Scream

(#2 in a series exploring our ethnic diversity)

- Tell her the reason she and her friends speak Spanish among themselves is because they're talking about you.
- Look totally shocked when you realize she doesn't know how to cook (especially fried plantain) and even more shocked when you learn that she doesn't still live at home.
- When she asks you to go dancing, ask her what kind of shoes are best for salsa.
- Ask her why she speaks Spanish, is Black and her hair is in dreadlocks.
- Look stunned when you find out that her favorite food is Chinese.
- Say: "I love 'Latin culture.' I love Iris Chacon."
- Ask her if she's got her green card yet.
- Ask her if her father has his green card yet.
- The first time you meet her, call her "Mami."

—Nancy Kirton



By Michelangelo Signorile

I sometimes wonder what Tina Brown is really like. Is she a nice person? Or is she the self-serving homophobe her magazine presents her as?

As editor in chief of *Vanity Fair*, Brown resides over an empire of fags who seem to grovel at her feet. The host of gay men who work as editors at *VF* seem not to want to offend their almighty power-monger-in-chief. Though I truly hope they have more integrity, it's quite possible that they're as self-hating and as greedy as some of the other dykes and fags who've been criticized in this column, in which case they would probably just let everything pass in a desperate attempt to GET TO THE TOP AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT ROCKING THE BOAT.

The December issue of *VF* is a case in point. It is quite distressing to open the magazine and turn to the 1989 Hall of Fame (a feature which, according to *VF*, profiles "the men and women who made the eighties the Media Decade"), and find not one living, openly gay man or lesbian profiled. Of course there are at least five closet cases, a couple of murderers, a few homophobes, a freak, a sexist pig (and a partridge in a pear tree?) among the 25 or so listed. These are the people we're supposed to look up to. The fact that the only openly gay person they salute, Andy Warhol, is dead, says a lot about what *Vanity Fair* thinks of gays.

Most grotesque is the little quip in Malcolm Forbes' write-up, in which they call him "Elizabeth Taylor's boy

toy." Give us a break! And even more disgusting, insidious and downright suicidal, is the inclusion of self-hating record company president David Geffen. Think about it: A bunch of so-called "out" fags at *Vanity Fair* suggested and/or allowed the magazine to herald a self-loather who, for love of money, spent the decade promoting homophobes like Guns N' Roses and Andrew Dice Clay—bands and individuals who told America's teens to hate, despise and beat up "fags" and "queers" (and *VF* gives him a pat on the back for pushing those two acts specifically). Geffen did this



while claiming that bands and comedians have First Amendment rights to free speech and that it wasn't his place to silence them. Yes, and I'm sure he'd have let them spew venom about "niggers," "spics" and "kikes." No way, because that would have cost him dollars, since racism is unacceptable. But fag-bashing? It's downright chic! Just read *Vanity Fair* for the proof of that.

Then there's the inclusion of Roger Ailes, a vile man who has, dozens of times, spouted the most homophobic rhetoric of the past decade. *VF*, glorifying this horrific creature on two pages, even quotes

him saying to Bush at a coaching session, "There you go with that fucking hand again. You look like a fucking pansy," without attacking him for making such a statement. Ailes is a man who spent the decade building up the monsters in power whose neglect is responsible for the deaths of thousands of people. A man who allegedly tried to strangle an AIDS activist at a Giuliani fundraiser!

Wonderful, *Vanity Fair*, just wonderful. WHAT THE FUCK IS WRONG WITH YOU PEOPLE! WHAT SORT OF BIZARRE DENIAL ARE YOU IN? Do you think that homophobia is acceptable or that it doesn't really exist? Do you think that the AIDS crisis will just simply "go away"? Or do you simply excuse yourselves by telling yourselves, "I'm just doing my job," the way many Jews during the Holocaust told themselves the same thing?

Ms. Brown, whole communities—populations numbering into the millions—are being systematically wiped out by a homophobic, racist, sexist government which doesn't give a shit about them. Why can't you attack the American government regarding its neglect of the AIDS crisis with the same vigor that you attacked the British government about the damned museums? Museums! In an end-of-the-decade issue you simply forgot about the occurrence of the largest epidemic in the history of the modern world? An epidemic which wiped out tens of thou-

sands of people? An epidemic which took so many of your own friends, so many people you also loved? An epidemic which will take so many more people you love and respect? Is it because they are the *wrong* people? Not the Reagans, the Buckleys, the Trumps? To battle AIDS we have to battle homophobia. Gay men and lesbians must be visible—on your pages, not just behind your word processors. And there should be no place in your magazine to glorify homophobes, just as—presumably—there is no place to glorify racists and other hate-mongers and murderers. Do the right thing, Tina. ▼

Social Terrorism

Photos by Erich Conrad



DESSERT ANYONE?
Frank and Frank at Love Machine



"NO COMMENT"
Pat Buckley look-a-like on St. Marks Place



WHAT, ME BARTEND?
Mark at the Saint.



LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT I'VE DONE WITH THE PLACE
*Atlanta's Dick Richards at Nelson Sullivan's memorial
at the Limelight*



ON WHEN THE SAINTS, GO CRUISING IN...
Scott Morgan at the Saint's reopening



LONDON CALLING
The Pop Tarts at Nelson Sullivan's memorial at the Limelight

THE CUBBY HOLE'S 7TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY



TONGUE IN CHIC

Bartenders Lella, Debra and Maryann, ready to serve

Photos by Diana Osterfeld



READ MY TITS

Prinny Alavi and Liz Irons



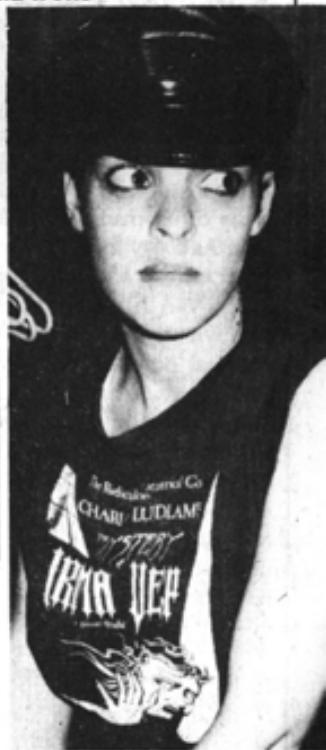
STICK IT TO ME, BABY

Rob E., Denise and the Boxer Shorts Beauty



TEENAGERS IN LOVE

Susan and Emmanuelle joined at the hips



HEY, I ONLY WORK HERE

Romy, the Cubby Hole coatcheck



THE HORNEY CORNER

Cubby Hole denizens



SITTIN' AND A'PICKIN'

Liz, Phyllis and their new picket fence

In Vito Veritas

by Peter Bowen

"There is that scene from *Queen Christina* when Greta Garbo asks of news from Spain, but confesses, 'I have never been there...only in my thoughts.' John Gilbert says, 'But you speak of Spain with such nostalgia.' And Garbo says, 'One can feel nostalgia for a place one has never seen.' I often think that lesbians and gay men are doing that [at the movies]. They are feeling nostalgia for something they have never seen, themselves on the screen."

—Vito Russo

If lesbian and gay identity is grounded on making the personal political, Vito Russo has, for many of us, made the political personable. As a gay man, a film historian, an AIDS activist and a person living with AIDS, Vito has transgressed the borders which separate personal life from political practice so many times that such borders have become unspeakable. His formidable book and film program, *The Celluloid Closet*, not only came out of his position as a gay man who loves films, but has engendered for many lesbians and gay men an understanding of how their identities have been constructed—if not closeted—by Hollywood films.

As one of the first books to bring to light the shadowy position of lesbians and gay men in cinematic representation, *The Celluloid Closet* precisely identified the ways Hollywood sought to represent lesbian and gay identity, while repressing positive images of gays and lesbians. Moving from the equally odd and lyric image of two men gracefully waltzing in *The Gay Brothers* (1895) to independent film's attempt (without anxiety) to introduce the lives of lesbians and gays, Vito's work chronicles Hollywood's attempt to imagine the "homosexual."

Vito's work has, for the less enlightened, consistently been illuminating. After a panel on film, David Denby told Vito that "you really opened my eyes to these representations because I review films all the time, and I also make political comments about how Blacks and women are treated. Now I am going to look out for lesbians and gays." When *The Celluloid Closet* came out in 1981, Gene Siskel, according to Vito, "ran a three full page *Chicago Sun Times* interview; it was revelation to him that homosexuality had not been discussed." (Needless to say *The New York Times* never reviewed the book.) Even Larry Kramer confessed to Vito, "I saw all those films; why didn't I see that?"

Why didn't he see them? Why don't we? For Vito, our invisibility is everywhere around us to see, if only we knew how to look for it. "My responsibility is to wake people up to what they are seeing. A perfect example is the film *No Way Out*. *No Way Out* was a very popular film and I have had disappointing experiences with gay men who are perhaps not conscious, when I would say, didn't it bother you that the slime-bucket, sleazeball villainous character was the gay character, and then he dies. And then they say, 'Oh yes, there was that one little thing, but wasn't it a great film.' They are not trained to see it. In fact, they are trained *not* to see it."

Curriculum Vito

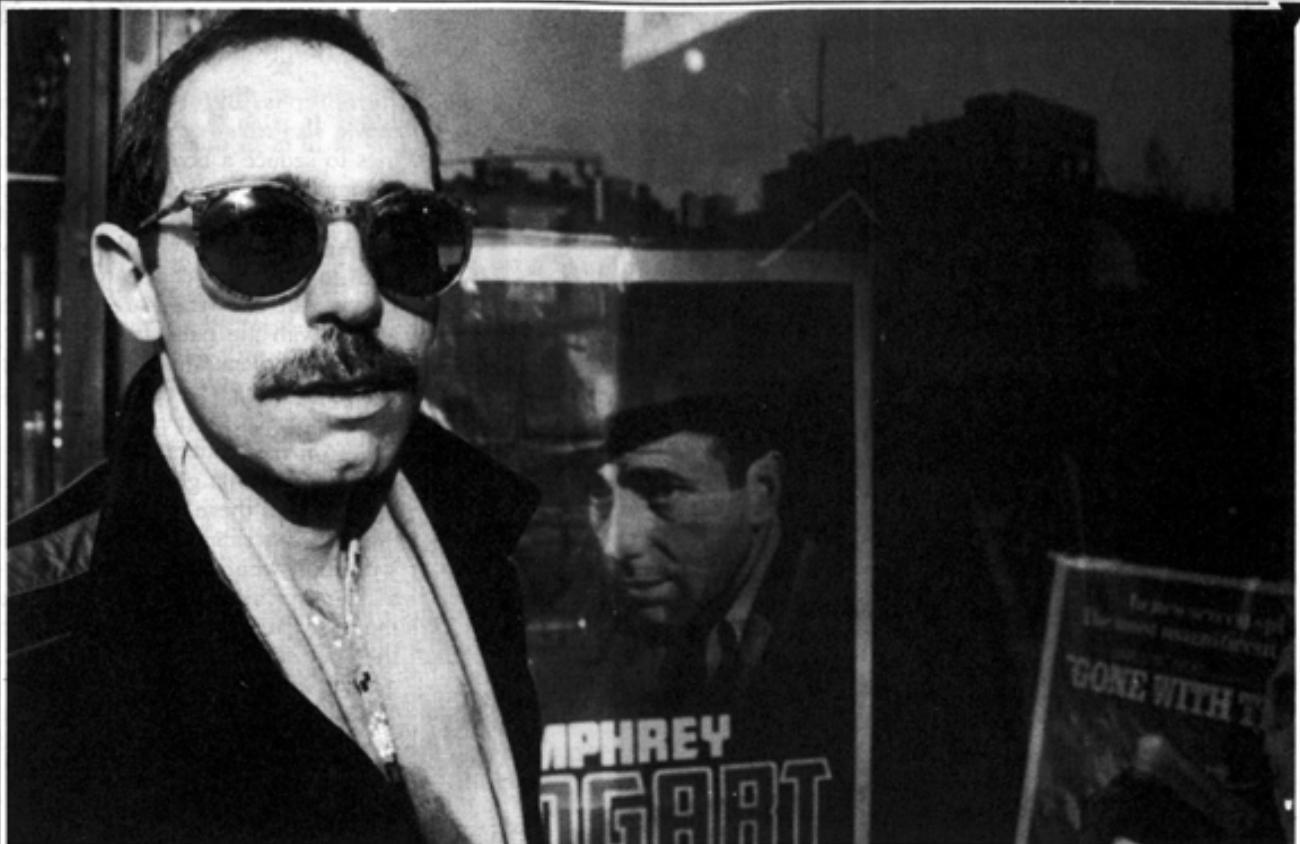
Growing up in East Harlem—with a short stint in Lodi, New Jersey—inside a lower middle class family, Vito was given the chance to see the differences (racial, ethnic, sexual) which gave sense to people's lives. He too recognized his own difference, but, "for some reason, I didn't buy into all the oppression. I knew somehow that they were full of shit, and something so natural for me had to be right." And right he was. For although his family came from poor immigrant stock and could never give

him the culture and education others had, they were smart enough to learn to accept and support him over the years.

After college, Vito's future started to come together in the shape of a project. Enrolled in graduate studies at the newly formed Cinema Studies department at N.Y.U., Vito was also an active member of the Gay Activist Alliance and had recently been hired by the film department of the Museum of Modern Art. Strangely, it was a straight man, Willard Van Kyke—the head of MOMA's film department and Vito's boss—who inspired *The Celluloid Closet*. Pulling Vito aside one day, Van Dyke told Vito, "You're interested in film and you're active in the gay rights movement. You should be the one to write the book on gay film."

As in some real life version of a black and white success film, Van Kyke invited Vito to speak at a conference in New Hampshire about film theory with Agnes Varda, among others. From there Vito has gone on to give thousands of presentations at film institutes and conferences around the world, each time changing his talk slightly to address the subtle and dramatic changes in film history, gay politics and his life. Moving from underground gay films to recent successful independent projects (*My Beautiful Laundrette*, *Desert Hearts*) to the paucity of AIDS films and the wealth of AIDS video, the additions and deletions from his program have become a telling history of the lesbian and gay movement in the last ten years. Vito's transformation from a scholar studying the celluloid figures of gays and lesbians to a prominent gay figure himself—a figure who now often appears on film—was realized in an uncanny and telling episode while filming Rob Epstein's Quilt documentary, *Common Threads*. After Vito narrated the prominent role of Willard Van Kyke in the making of *The Celluloid Closet*, the cameraman appeared from behind the camera in tears.

"Willard Van Dyke was my



Vito Russo

father," he explained.

Veni, Vidi, Vito

Working on his film project from 1972, the book finally materialized in 1981 after extensive archival research and numerous interviews. At that time, explains Vito, "there was no book besides Parker Tyler's book *Screening the Sexes*, which explored gay images on screen. I wanted to write an accessible book that covered mainstream cinema, much like the work that had been done in women studies and Black studies. The idea germinated in 1974-1975. Eighteen publishers turned down the book, before Harper and Row agreed to publish it...the initial response of publishers was that there was no market for this book, which I thought was exceptionally short-sighted, because if you count gay people and film freaks—who will buy anything about movies—there was a market."

Indeed Vito's book had hit on a market which would by the 1980s open up immensely. In 1981, however, Vito's book, along with Edmund

White's *States of Desire* and Andrew Holleran's *Dancer from the Dance* were the only "gay" books which sold over 20,000 copies. While fiercely criticized from certain lesbian/gay corners (for example, the Marxist/feminist editors of *Jump Cut*), its straight-forward style and enormous scholarship continue to make it a profoundly important book.

Controversy has always surrounded Vito's pragmatic approach to theorizing sexuality and gender identification in film studies. From 1971-1974 Vito's film series at the Gay Activist Alliance Firehouse was frowned on by many for showing "straight" films. But Vito's screenings and discussion of heterosexual films, such as *Two for the Road* and *The Women*, not only provided a safe space in which lesbians and gays could re-claim their right to spectatorship, but also provided the discussion in which gay people could begin to understand the construction of gendered identities in film. And moving out of the theater and into the streets, lesbians and gays took up an invita-

Photo: Stephen Stewart

tion from Shirley Clarke, during her presentation of *Portrait of Jason*, to learn-on-line editing and film production in order to begin to document their own struggles and histories.

Quo Vito

During the intermission at a recent performance of *Gypsy*, three unknown men, at different times, came up to Vito and hugged him for his recent performance in *Common Threads*. At other times, men have tracked him down for sex because of his notoriety. Vito has become a figure paradoxically as sexy and as distant as the images he describes. In Vito's coming out and going to films at the same time, I cannot help wondering about the integral and confusing connection in Vito's life between sex in films and sex at films. How, perhaps, in high school the heavy hand of some strange man dropping into Vito's lap during a pivotal scene of some film would present choices which Vito would spend the rest of his life trying to reconcile.

See VITO on page 61

Film

Going Backward in the Outback



The Youth (l): Is that lint on your sleeve?
The Senator (r): You are lovely.

The Everlasting Secret Family.
Written by Frank Moorhouse.
Directed by Michael Thornhill.
From Nov. 17 at the Bleecker Street Cinema.

by Bruce C. Steele

The *Everlasting Secret Family* drags homosexuality down to the level of reactionary heterosexuality, in which role-playing and the wielding of power eradicate passion and affection. The film isn't even about relations between consenting gay adults, but about predatory pederasty, practiced by a poorly imag-

ined pseudo-Masonic cult of ruling class Australian men.

Mark Lee (Mel Gibson's young friend in *Gallipoli*) plays The Youth who is selected as sex partner for The Senator (Arthur Digham). Most of the characters have no names, by the way—a transparent ploy for universality that instead conveys only an inability to deal with the characters as individuals. The Youth, who apparently isn't gay until recruited, finds he likes the role and soon becomes more vain, obnoxious and loathsome than his snobby benefactor. The rest of the movie depicts The Youth's struggle first to keep the older man's interest, and later, after The Senator marries and demotes his sex toy to babysitter, to exact a drably predictable revenge.

The despoiling of an innocent boy by a lecherous older man is only the beginning of the march of gay

stereotypes. Before it's over, the movie also trots out a gay man who tries to seduce a boy using a woman accomplice, a high court judge who enjoys being tied up and degraded and several drag queens, callously used to represent depravity. Women fare no better—they are either in league with the pederasts or powerless against them. The notion of a gay woman is foreign to the very concept of the film.

To make matters worse, director Michael Thornhill gives no indication that he finds these right-wing clichés the least bit ridiculous. He imposes stylization without style or intentional humor (although much of the movie is laughable). Beginning with the first scene and aided by loud, grating music on the soundtrack, Thornhill keeps us as far as possible from the action—both literally and emotionally. The look is flat and monotonous, and so are the characters. Who could care about this contrived parable, these unappealing, undeveloped people?

Screenwriter Frank Moorhouse (*The Coca-Cola Kid*) fancies he's exposing the power struggle inherent in all relationships, but he goes about it ass backwards. Instead of peeling away appearances to expose the manipulations beneath, he begins with naked exploitation. Social and historical context are completely absent; the movie takes place in some timeless postwar Australia. AIDS goes unmentioned. Certainly the story of a public figure's private struggle with boy-love was handled with considerably more insight and feeling—not to mention drama—in Eloy de la Iglesia's *El Diputado* (1986); *Secret Family* seems inept and lifeless in comparison.

The notion of homosexuality as a "secret family" betrays the filmmakers' distaste for their own subject matter, since they clearly see themselves outside this forbidden and heartless cult. The gay characters reside in dim gray rooms with harsh "modern" furnishings, the epitome of sterility. But when The Youth visits a woman for some

See FAMILY on page 60

Music

Fanning the Flames

Strange Fire, by Indigo Girls.
Epic Records.

by Rachel Pepper

Those of us who discovered the Indigo Girls earlier this year knew we'd been blessed by the goddess for this endearing duo who mix folk music with a deep spirituality to celebrate the love of life. While not the variety of "out and proud" types like the group Two Nice Girls (who thank the Indigo Girls in their liner notes), Amy Ray and Emily Saliers have attracted a kind of cult-like devotion from lesbians. When they played Chicago last July, at least half of the audience members were visibly lesbian, many of whom, judging from gestures from the group, wanted to personally escort the women out afterwards. And when Saliers mentioned from the stage that several songs they were singing were from an earlier, unavailable album, I wondered how long it would be before it would be available again.

Now in answer to that question, Epic has just re-released *Strange Fire*, their long out-of-print first album. As instantly likeable as the duo's self-titled album, *Strange Fire* once again showcases the music of these two talented women, their voices fitting intimately around each other. Many of the themes developed on *Strange Fire*, including self-love and acceptance, spiritual searching and burning lust tempered by the quest for love, are similar to those on their later album. As the title track *Strange Love* shows, spirituality is something all encompassing for

Saliers and Ray, and it's what makes them so appealing to those who seek answers not so much in the name of God as in the name of music.

I come to you with strange fire, I make an offering of love. The incense of my soul is burned by the fire in my blood. I come with a softer answer to the questions that lie in your path. I want to barter you from the anger, find a refuge from the wrath. This is a message of love. Love that moves from the inside out, love that never grows tired. I come to you with strange fire.

Strange Fire is an album established fans should enjoy greatly,



Strange fire

while also introducing new listeners to this talented pair from Georgia. As the darkly spiritual, yet optimistic cuts "Prince of Darkness" and "Love's Recovery" from *Indigo Girls* revealed, the women are at their best on their more melancholy melodies, despite the popularity of the upbeat "Closer to Fine." On *Strange Fire* this is again apparent, especially on the typically gender-neutral "Crazy Game" and the very beautiful "Left Me a Fool," both written by Saliers, the duo's more introspective and lyrical member. It should be noted, however, that much

of the album's recorded energy, as well as the duo's on-stage dynamism, comes from the dark-haired, husky-voiced Amy Ray, by far the more popular of the two among lesbian fans.

An obviously less-produced effort than its marked-for-fame successor album, *Strange Fire* may elicit criticism for some slightly warbly moments. In addition, some listeners, unfamiliar with the simple lines of traditional acoustic folk or "women's music," may find *Strange Fire* too bare-boned in its instrumentation. But while the songs are clearly not comparable to their newer work, the unadorned simplicity of this album is rich, featuring Saliers and Ray on guitars and vocals and women musicians on flute, cello, harmonica and mandolin. This is quite a pleasant difference from their later album, with its somewhat obtrusive use of REM member Michael Stipe on background vocals and mostly male musicians on drums, guitars and keyboards.

So perhaps because of, rather than in spite of, the limitations on Saliers and Ray when they made *Strange Fire* in 1987 (as relative unknowns), the album re-emerges as an extremely intimate work while sounding surprisingly clear and crisp on its new compact disc format. And while it's true that the album has a few quirks, these simply reinforce how far these women have come in two years. *Strange Fire* provides a great opportunity to become more familiar with the Indigo Girls' roots after they've already become stars, an unexpected treasure in a fall season already rich with new offerings from women artists. In fact, the somewhat unpolished *Strange Fire* should hold its own both as a fine folk album and as the "rediscovered" first album by a major musical force of the late 80s. It should also give the Indigo Girls a reason to tour again soon, something I'd be more than happy about! ▼

Theater

Positively Puerile

Positive Me. Written and composed by Lisa Edelstein. LaMama E.T.C., 74A E. 4th Street, (212) 475-7710. Runs through Nov. 26.

by Maria Maggenti

Lisa Edelstein, formerly known as Lisa E., whose propensity for Palladium partying garnered her a feature in *The New York Times Magazine* three and a half years ago, has now emerged from disco darkness as a young writer, composer and performer. Her burgeoning ambition is currently on display at La MaMa E.T.C. in *Positive Me*, a piece written and composed by her. Billed as the "first AIDS education musical," *Positive Me* is a sanitized, beseeching, well-intentioned and mixed-up assemblage of musical vignettes obviously designed for the straight, the middle class, the ignorant and the fearful.

Using some of the most hackneyed of stereotypes, including a pathetic drag queen who laments the "good old days" (while *hetero* couples do suggestive modern dances together in low-light) and a Black woman prostitute complete with freedom fro and rabbit fur jacket, Edelstein presents a picture of AIDS, sex and politics that is decidedly the white, straight, scared young woman's guide through the HIV-jungle. Though its intent is to "educate" and "expose negative attitudes towards AIDS," it

does little but promote the hegemony of heterosexual and gay male penetrative sex, albeit with a condom. The use of dental dams is never mentioned nor is any sex but the missionary kind portrayed. The two gay "characters" we meet are, instead, shown holding hands for—oh—a sweet, fleeting moment, while in the opening moments of the play we are treated to Edelstein's sexy, young bod



HERE WE GO AGAIN
Lisa E. is topped by Thomas Gibson

we are never really sure why she is included. Does she represent innocence, lost youth, the future, "innocent" victims? On a par with the pathetic, limp-wristed old drag queen and the brassy, bawdy Black woman prostitute (who at first I thought was the drag queen), is the "activist" who harangues the audience to "use condoms" and then throws them and AIDS education pamphlets into the

seats. He is particularly distasteful and bitchy, although the audience loved his self-righteous whining. We are also given a trio of fundamentalist preachers who I imagine are supposed to represent cartoonish religious zealots. Ugly but benign.

The show ends with a rather murky all-cast songfest that is initiated by this omnipresent "girl with red ball." The first line of her song is "Am I

quite explicitly entwined with a boy hunk on a park bench.

The myriad character types that we are introduced to never rise above the level of Edelstein's outsider status as a young woman who, though interested and earnest, is not really very well informed. The "drug user" characters are seen moving about in blue-colored light with a kind of creepy 1960s LSD-inspired score and they "shoot up" in slow motion. Throughout the piece a little girl about the age of ten waltzes around the adults and bounces a red ball. Her presence is nothing short of peculiar, not to mention annoying, as

Photo: Jonathan Slaff

my blood test? Am I my t-cells?" and continues on about how testing positive doesn't mean you are any less of a human being or a person, that you are simply "sick" and you need love and care and compassion, and "if you're positive, be positive!" How sweet. And how we got from condom usage to t-cells is a mystery to me, weakening the educational logic of the piece as a whole. The cast ends up holding hands and dancing around in a circle, imploring the audience to "do something" and singing out a laundry list of local organizations from GMHC to PWAC to ACT UP. This is a mostly

See POSITIVELY PUERILE on page 60

Theater

Dry, Gross 'N' Opera

3 Penny Opera, a play with music. Book and lyrics by Bertolt Brecht. Music by Kurt Weill. Translation by Michael Feingold. Presented at the Lunt-Fontanne Theater, 205 W. 46th St.

by Michael Paller

Bertolt Brecht did away with "conflict" and "suspense" in his plays by announcing, on placards, the purpose and action of each scene. Rather than being caught up in the story, the audience could sit back coolly and examine the lesson the scene imparted.

Broadway audience, however, isn't much interested in lessons. They want their story and suspense. They want, for their \$55.00, a good time, a hummable tune, a laugh. So the conflict occurs not onstage, but somewhere between stage and auditorium, as playwright and audience lock horns: The playwright asks the audience to consider and learn; the audience prefers a nap in the darkness. The result is a compromise with which no one is satisfied. The audience shuffles and yawns during the dialogue, waiting for the next Kurt Weill song (which usually fails to deliver the show-biz punch for which they wait); Brecht can only hope that some of his message makes it across the footlights, the chandeliers and the other trapplings of the Lunt-Fontanne Theater.

Seeing *3 Penny Opera* (it was once called *The Threepenny Opera*, but marketing determined that that

isn't catchy enough) on Broadway is indeed disconcerting. By and large, the audience isn't prepared for a sharp commentary on the effect of capitalism on the rich and the poor; they're looking for an easy dose of culture. We've come to see Sting play Macheath. This isn't Sting's fault, nor the director John Dexter's, nor even the producers: It is symptomatic of America's approach to culture generally and theater in particular: For a serious work to appear on Broadway, it must be turned into an event revolving around something other than the piece itself; the piece being

may not be what Brecht had in mind—but in the context of this production, which is more musical comedy than Brecht-Weill, it works. As Jonathan Peachum, who "employs" the poor by sending them out to beg dressed as the war-wounded, the handicapped and the destitute (and taking half their proceeds), Alvin Epstein is strangely muted, although he seems to be working hard to be heard.

Indeed, the production as a whole seems to evaporate as it happens. Dexter has employed only a few of Brecht's techniques, which accounts partly for the production's blunted edge. Gone is the harsh lighting, and the placards denoting the scenes' location and thematic purpose. Some of these are spoken, instead, by Ethyl Eichelberger as the Ballad Singer (whose rendition of "The Ballad of Mack the Knife" is eerie and frightening).

The production works well occasionally: As the beggars march across the stage in the reprise of "The Song of Futility" singing that men are no good, we believe them—not beggars at all, but Peachum employees, they add resonance to that futile spiral. It is one of the evening's few memorable images.

Michael Feingold's new translation is gritty, scatological and pointed, but to what purpose? When the production is ended and the stars applauded, the audience flees, stepping over the homeless just as they did on their way into the theater: Proving, alas, Peachum's point about our boundless capacity for heartlessness. There is a sad futility to performing Brecht on Broadway at \$55.00 a ticket. Brecht may have found it amusing—but not very funny. ▼



WHY YOU HANDSOME DEVIL, YOU
Sting as Macheath

Photo: Daryl Webb

merely a vehicle for the star's appearance (to applause, of course).

The star, Sting, plays Macheath as a likable rogue, an aspiring bourgeois—which is how Brecht saw him. But Sting doesn't constitute a very memorable presence; when he's off-stage, we forget about him. Georgia Brown provides a rousing musical comedy turn as Mrs. Peachum, which

Books

On the Frontline

Personal Dispatches: Writers Confront AIDS. Edited by John Preston. St. Martin's Press, \$19.95, 208 pp.

by Christopher Davis

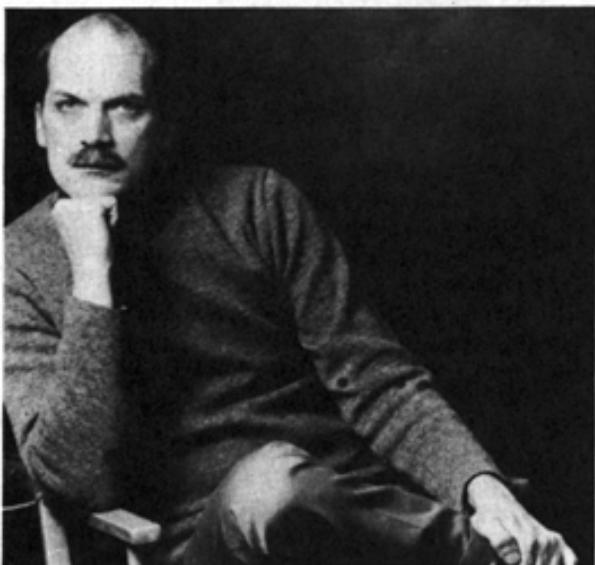
Recently a gay man sent me a story he had written about a party. "The crowd was solidly A List," he wrote, "that heady conglomeration of the rich, the bright and the beautiful that made the gay scene in New York so intoxicating..." When I discussed the story with the writer, I told him that, although the story was very well written, its lack of political or social consciousness seemed to be an anachronism in this time we live in. The writer responded that it was time gay writing stopped being so politically and socially correct and started being fun again. I disagreed, gently, and then, over the next few days as I was considering how to formulate my disagreement rationally in a letter I read *Personal Dispatches* for the first time.

Personal Dispatches: Editor John Preston Photo: Rhonda Farnham/Mayne Studio

Writers Confront AIDS is a collection of nonfiction writing about AIDS. One or two of the pieces are tight little academic essays, but most are simple, first-person accounts of the ways AIDS has affected the lives of the writers. Some of the pieces are understated, grim recitations of the facts. In Marea Murray's "All Too Familiar," fragments of case histories are interrupted by quiet statements that the writer is leaving her work as a social worker with PWAs at the end of the

month. "Why?" I want to ask, "people need you." The question is not answered. Stephen Greco's "Excerpts from a Journal" are simple, powerful excerpts from a journal he kept while his lover was dying. Craig Rowland's "The Examination Table" captures well our relationships with doctors, those people we used to see only for VD screening and who now have become so central to our lives. These works show that sometimes a flat telling of the facts, the details of our lives, has a strength and dignity beyond that of any literary artifice.

I loved Stephen Chapot's "Liz Taylor, Live!" about a pricey, glittering L.A. AIDS benefit starring who else.



The piece is good humored, even funny (which Edmund White, in his essay in this volume, says is inappropriate). Mr. Chapot also manages to get in a good lick at Louise Hay. "I hate Louise Hay," one of us says. "She's walking around here like some Olympian goddess. Word is that she sold Avon before she realized that there was a fortune to be made from us...I hate all these people who think we need this disease in our lives to give it some meaning." I think he's

much too polite about Ms. Hay. How about something more direct, like "Won't someone please get that parasite out of our lives!"

Although almost every piece in the collection deserves individual mention, there is only space to mention a few more. Alan Troxler, whose biography says he "teaches English country dance, free of the traditional men's and women's roles, and works as a graphic designer and yardsman," contributed two pieces, "Wandering the Woods in a Season of Death," and "A Letter Home on Pride Day," which were, for me, the most moving parts of the collection. Close behind them was E.J. Groff's contribution about

parents who care for their son when he is dying; it should be sent to everybody's parents. "The Epidemic: A San Francisco Diary," by Laurence Tate, has the power to stun although we are almost ten years into this hell and supposedly have heard and seen it all more times than we can, or care to, count.

Surprisingly, my least favorite pieces were by my two literary heroes, Andrew Holleran and Edmund White. Mr. Holleran's "The Fear" piles perfect sentences into perfect paragraphs, but it all seems to be about an abstraction; it is as though he's writing about a 40s black and white film. Also, he writes: "The aftermath of sex is fear and loathing. AIDS is a natural progression of aversion therapy. Sex and terror are twins. Death is a hunk, a gorgeous penis." He does not speak for me. Edmund White's "Esthetics and Loss" is the piece that was much discussed, often not flatteringly, when it appeared in *Artforum* in 1987. In it, he gives his prescription for AIDS art: "[It] must begin in tact, avoid humor and end in anger." We are fortunate that no one took his

See PERSONAL DISPATCHES on page 60

Books

My Kingdom for a Bawd

A Village Affair. By Joanna Trollope. Harper and Row, \$17.95, 231 pp.

Ducks. By Helen Hodgman. Harmony Books, \$16.95, 121 pp.

by Kerry Fried

Two mainstream publishers bring out, in the same season, novels originally published in the U.K. with what most editors would delicately term lesbian themes. One, *A Village Affair*, is civilized, stately and bourgeois to the bone—set in Pitcombe, a rural paradise where neighbors' clicking tongues are the sole cause of harm. The other, *Ducks*, takes place mostly in London and is crammed with action, horror and hilarity.

A Village Affair seems to be a novel about breaking free from fear, convention and clinging relations. Alice Jordan is a beautiful blocked artist with a loving if ineffectual husband and three children. Having escaped from her grim family into Martin's elegant patrician one, she has spent years behaving obediently, charmingly and publicly. Joanna Trollope swiftly creates a marriage where a long history of good will and even desire is not enough. Though much of the novel is seen through Alice's eyes, the author uses a shifting viewpoint and swiftly creates characters such as Martin, who doesn't quite know what to do about Alice's funk and rather hopes that his mother will sort things out with her. Though the novel is set on conventional terrain, as the title indicates, Trollope is at first keen to convey the passions and tensions which even gracious living can't quite smother. Alice's father has warned her early on:

"One day, one day when you

wake up to real feeling and real pain, one day when you can't have something you long for or you see too late that you have closed the door on something you need, then you will understand about communication, and communicating is, after all, the only end of life that makes sense."

Less immersed in village life than she had hoped, Alice marks time until she and Martin are invited to a dinner party feting the return of Clodagh Unwin, the daughter of the local squire. (This is the sort of novel in which such characters figure—with little irony but a surprising amount of sympathy). Clodagh—back from America and an unhappy affair with a rich lawyer whose sex she mysteriously elides over—initially charms Martin more than Alice. But by this point, whose village affair it is to be, is pretty clear. Alice's instant fascination with Clodagh, following upon scene after scene in which she and Martin fail to connect, makes it only a question of when and how. The pleasure lies in watching the author go about it and waiting for various revelations, verbal and physical.

Despite her use of several older characters in the village as voices of reason, Trollope slants the reader's sympathy entirely toward the two women, Clodagh even more so than Alice. This impossibly wonderful (and rich) sprite seems to bring out the best in everyone (and the author pulls this off without being cloying). The only person who is immediately repulsed, and is the catalyst for disaster, is Martin's older brother. He cottons to the relationship straightaway, forcing a near revelation over a tense, superbly drawn dinner. When the unpleasant Anthony asks Clodagh why she spends so much time with Alice, the author, through a combination of taut dialogue and Martin's entirely incorrect reaction, sets up a scene in which all reveal themselves.

When word of the "unnatural"

relationship of the two women whips through the village, the author oddly alters her allegiance. Clodagh, it seems, is overpowering Alice (and there is a none too covert statement from Alice regarding Clodagh's being rather more interested in sex than she) and Alice must therefore renounce her. One wise figure (the novel grows suddenly overcrowded with those giving advice) counsels Clodagh to "make something of your life": in giving up the relationship "you will live much better." And Clodagh seems to see her point.

I am not objecting so much to the unhappy turn of events as the author's failure to create it with any measure of credibility. The novelist Luisa Valenzuela remarked in an interview, "When an author tries to tell her characters what to do, that's when the book goes badly. On the other hand, when the characters are so well defined that they act out of their own volition, that's when the novel works." The second half of *A Village Affair* enacts this. Where she had first created scenes in which characters, and not just the leads, came into their own, when plot machinations take over, all become pawns to the moral, in which with renunciation (suddenly, somehow, cognate with self-determination) comes freedom. Trollope's loading of the narrative dice smacks not just of contrivance but of collusion with the village morality that its heroines flouted for a short time.

While *A Village Affair* is an entertainment, Helen Hodgman's *Ducks* is more ambitious, if more covert, in aim—using short scenes to create, very precisely, tales of extremely messy lives. Her telegraphic style ("Moss was confident that in the fullness of time things could only get better. Hazel snorted. She wasn't big on the fullness of time.") recalls Félix Fénéon's "novels in three lines," squibs of real events which he wrote up in *Le Matin* in the late nineteenth

century: "In Essoyes, Bernard, 25, bludgeoned Mr. Dufert, who is 89, and stabbed his wife. He was jealous." One contemporary described Féneon's formula as "Multiply the banal by the tragic, and you have a very weird effect." Hodgman achieves this throughout *Ducks*, the story of Hazel and Moss, two women entering middle age, who have money worries, are struggling to raise Moss' son Elvis, stay together and not to betray the movement. "Moss was often exhausted by the battle to do work as she wished, remain politically correct and deal with the droves of dickheads (Hazel's phrase: Hazel was no help) who got in the way."

All in brief, juxtaposed segments, those who have played or will play a part in Hazel and Moss' undoing are introduced—men searching for women (the Bogeyman, Le Professeur de Judo), often with the intent to kill them, and women searching, after years of political correctness, for comfort and ease. "With money, life would be more pleasant. That, perhaps, was the point to it."

Hodgman uses humor and satire on easy targets (the Women's Design Collective, GWENDA'S GARAGE, which hopes to cater mostly to women customers) but also on the frightening: Elvis befriends and is abused by the Bogeyman, who ends up, supposedly rehabilitated, killing a woman. Whenever he tries to bring him up, horrifyingly, Elvis's relatives console him with the cliche, "But there's no such thing as Bogeymen."

The novel ranges from present to past, England to the U.S. and Canada, shifts scenes rapidly and uses little punctuation within sentences in order to create a dislocating, flexible continuum and a variety of perspectives, most of them alarmingly skewed. Hodgman writes series of terse sentences to create the visions of those searching for "the possibility for the daily practice of ethical love." She is also brilliant at the longer phrase which is layers-deep—amusing, sad, nostalgic, satiric:

"Afterwards Buster had cried because she'd liked it so much and it had been so long since she'd done it

and because they'd been guilty of practicing a style of love-making often put down by the politically correct as being imitative of heterosexual intercourse and because she'd indulged in gender swapping fantasies."

Ducks is a funny nightmare. For all its surface narration and matter-of-fact treatment of desire and change—"At first it had been love. Curiosity, that more adult refinement, came later"—not to mention death, Hazel and Moss's expressions of longing and innocence are heightened by their often violent and seemingly hopeless context and dry expression. *Ducks*, more than *A Village Affair*, is about self-determination, but what its characters will do, having achieved for a moment this goal, remains unclear. Though Trollope's is the more "realistic" work and much of the horror of *Ducks* is distancing, the tragedy of Hazel and Moss rings truer: "I love you. Since we were tiny. Since my mother told me you were a pervert. But it hardly ever works out does it. Love?" ▼

FAMILY from page 54

straight sex, she lives amidst a garden, green, fertile and *healthy*. The Youth worries about who is and isn't "one of us," but no warm-blooded viewer could possibly identify with the "us" the movie offers—unless his or her self-image is one of hatred and shame.

A trace of actual emotion threatens briefly in the form of The Chauffeur, who is permitted at least a first name, "Eric." Early in the film, Australian actor Dennis Miller focuses the audience's disgust—not with homosexuality, but with The Senator's antiquated class system and The Youth's growing arrogance. Eric, one of The Senator's retired catamites, seethes with controlled anger, and for a time Miller humanizes a part written only to symbolize The Oppressed Servant. Unfortunately, late in the film Eric is forced to join the parade of simple-minded stereotypes, giving homophobic viewers yet another reason to nod and say, "Yep, I knew that's what those people were like." ▼

POSITIVELY PUERILE from page 56

inaudible guide to fundraising. In addition, we are told by one character that "government testing" has been hampered due to "greed and injustice." Excuse me, but I think that it's called violent homophobia, racism and hatred for poor people.

This play will be great for white, straight suburban teenagers, because its few explicit moments (the word "dick" for instance) are nothing more than a reiteration of the most mediocre and conformist of TV-inspired heterosexist, adolescent realities. Ultimately, the banal, angering and piercing realities of life with HIV illness and AIDS seem simply tacked on to the real theme of this self-indulgent little play. This is a straight, young woman's attempt to put her face and her body to good use before the AIDS crisis is over. She can then move into feature films as the glowing, well-meaning star, the naive innocence of this effort nothing but a small forgettable note on a very long resume. ▼

PERSONAL DISPATCHES from page 58

guidelines seriously.

This returns me to where I started: Why must we write about AIDS, which is in itself a political act; why can't we forget all this misery and get on with it? The answers are eloquently stated in this compelling collection. Arnie Kantrowitz: "There is more to gay life than Sunday brunch. It takes nobility and perseverance and dignity and courage to be gay and proud in the face of condemnation and injustice, violence and death." Robert Dawidoff:

"We need to have these things written. The information, the truth, the anger, the philosophy, the history, the fiction, the poetry, the spirituality do a job now. Their place in history will be judged by their success in helping to keep the community that the writing serves alive, safer, together, comforted in sickness and in loss, defended against persecution."

We must never forget this, not in our art, not in our writing, not in our thinking, not in the way we live our lives. ▼

AIDS AND ABORTION from page 24

way involving fetal tissue, according to congressional sources working closely on the issue.

Although such research into AIDS is, at this point, theoretical, the National Organizations Responding to AIDS (NORA) coalition lists "necessary research using animals, fetal tissue and recombinant DNA with appropriate safety and ethical guidelines" as priority issues deserving support.

Adding to the concern that the ban, which applies to any medical research using federal funds, could hamper AIDS research are recent comments made by Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute for Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), at a recent meeting with AIDS activists.

Addressing the Treatment and Data Committee of ACT UP/NY on Oct. 19, Fauci suggested that fetal liver transplantation may be the key to finding an eventual cure for HIV, the virus believed to cause AIDS.

When asked about the Bush administration's staunch opposition to abortion and, consequently, fetal research, Fauci told the AIDS activists they would do well to direct their pressure on that front, saying, "I need support. I don't operate in a vacuum."

Based on Fauci's comments, AIDS activists are now investigating the possible links between AIDS and fetal research. "[Fauci] was rather excited about that possibility and felt that it was going to be the way to go in terms of [reconstituting] immune system," stated David Barr, staff attorney for the New York-based Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, who was present at the Fauci meeting. "There hasn't been that much research done [on the fetal/AIDS connection]. And it's important that we get it done."

ACT UP/NY has made fetal tissue work a top priority item and has pledged to push for such research in reconstituting immune system function.



REFLECTING ON ABORTION RIGHTS
Hundreds of thousands throng Washington Monument

Photo: Desi Del Valle

The announcement of the federal ban has now also spurred legal activists to carefully examine the possibility of countering the fetal research ban by legal means.

"I think it's an important issue," stated Norman Siegel, director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, "therefore I'm talking to lawyers to see whether there is a way to challenge this legally. But I'm not prepared at this moment to say there is. We don't knee-jerk here. This is an important issue."

"This [limitation on federal funds] is similar to what Jesse Helms was able to do to the [National Endowment for the Arts] this past summer. What we're seeing is the Corcoran-ization of American science," added HRCF's King, referring to the Washington art gallery that cancelled a show of photographs in the hopes of avoiding the "obscenity" controversy which then arose. "The same motivations that were behind efforts to restrict the creative talents of American artists are behind this decision that restricts the research avenues that are open to American scientists." ▼

VITO continued from page 53

The reconciliation of the contradictory identities which we find forced upon us has consumed Vito's life. Leaving his job at MOMA to attend a Gay Activist Alliance meeting, zipping from a film lecture to an ACT UP demo, mourning the death of his lover, Jeffrey Sevcik, while demanding the right to his future as a person living with AIDS, Vito has tangled up such simple distinctions as the personal and political, or the private and professional, so as to re-define the meaning of success.

"Your identity is always more complex than the way people see you as a gay activist or a gay film critic... But the subject is both necessary and desired. I am committed to a lesbian and gay film history as an academic subject; I am committed to it emotionally in my life. One of the reasons I do this is to leave behind for another generation of lesbians and gay men a legacy of history in that area."

The Celluloid Closet will be showing at the Public Theater every Saturday and Sunday at 3 pm from November 25 to December 17. ▼

GOING OUT

AN EVENTS CALENDAR

prepared by Rick X
with information from
The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard of
New York

For more information or referrals, to
rap, or to volunteer, call the GLSB
daily, noon to midnight, 212-777-1800

Send calendar items to:
Rick X, Going Out
Box 790
New York, NY 10108

Items must be received by
Monday to be included in the
following week's issue.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 20

PROJECT CONNECT Acting as If
Theatre Workshop, Level II, for
Recovering People, led by Emer-
ald O'Leary who combines classi-
cal acting training and the *Magic*
If of theatre with *Acting As If* from
the 12-step recovery programs; at
the Center, 208 W 13 St; 6:30-
10:30 pm; \$15; register 620-7310

MOMENTUM AIDS OUTREACH PROGRAM 4th Annual Benefit
with Honorary Chairperson Helen Hayes, and entertainment by Julie Budd, Kathy and Mo, Pudgy, Bobby Short, Andrea Marcovicci, Chris Durang & Dawne, Danny Apolinari, Jamie DeRoy, Weedon, Finkle & Fay, many others; at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre, Lincoln Center; 7:30 pm; \$25-\$150, 935-2200

BROOKLYN WOMEN'S MARTIAL ARTS AT GAY FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS presents a **Workshop on Self-Defense** for men and women; wear comfortable clothing; at St. John/St. Matthew Lutheran Church Community Center, Park Slope, 415 7th St (btwn 6th/7th Aves); social at 8:30 pm, workshop at 9 pm; 718/499-6503

HOME BOX OFFICE presents *Reno in Rage and Rehab*, a live performance originally taped at PS 122, 10:30 pm; HBO info 512-1208 (also airs 11/24 and 11/29)

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21

NEW YORK ADVERTISING & COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK Monthly Meeting, at the Center, Network Room, 208 W 13 St; 6:30-9:30 pm; 517-0380

SAGE sees Tyne Daly in *Gypsy*, to benefit SAGE's AIDS service program for seniors; at the St. James Theater, 8 pm; \$70 (\$30 goes to SAGE); info 741-2247

CENTER STAGE sees *City of Angels*, by Cy Coleman and Larry Gelbart, with Gregg Edelman, James Naughton, Rene Auberjonois and Randy Graff; at the Virginia Theatre; 8 pm; \$58; 620-7310

COALITION FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS Special Program, discussing current political topics concerning our community since the election; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; 627-1398

BISEXUAL YOUTH sees *The Dark Star Crew* at the Knitting Factory, 47 E Houston St; 8:30 pm; \$5; info 242-6815

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 22

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT Communal Thanksgiving Meal with the Hetrick-Martin Institute, in which members of GMAD will contribute culinary creations and share thanks at a meal with the youth served by the HMI; at the Center, 1st floor, 208 W 13 St (620-7310); 3:30 pm; GMAD info 718/802-0162, 718/756-1548 (Note: there will be no meeting of GMAD this Friday, 11/24)

SHESCAPE Thanksgiving Eve Party at Twenty/Twenty, 20 W 20 St; 5-10 pm; \$6; 645-6479 (women arriving before 10 pm may stay all night; gay men welcome after 10 pm)

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS Pilgrim Punishment and Holiday Social, with a discussion of how our naughty Pilgrim Fathers (and sons) spent their time, followed by refreshments (bring dessert or appetizers to share); at the Center, 3rd Floor, 208 W 13 St; 8:30 pm; \$5; 727-9878

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: Fright Night; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451

BEDROCK Thanksgiving Party with turkey buffet and music by Fran James; 121 Woodfield Rd, West Hempstead, Long Island; 516/486-9516

CHEEKS Thanksgiving Eve Party with buffet and raffle; 2000 Long Beach Rd, Island Park, Long Island; 516/431-5700

SILVER LINING Thanksgiving Eve Buffet, 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Park; 516/354-9641

STUTZ Mr. Buns Contest hosted by Sybil Bruncheon; 202 Westchester Ave, White Plains; 914/761-3100 (2 forms of ID required, present bridge toll receipt for free drink)

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 23

THANKSGIVING DAY

MACY'S Thanksgiving Day Parade goes down Central Park West from 77 St to 59 St, continues down Broadway to Herald Square/34 St; info 397-8222 (Editor's note: While not a gay/lesbian event, this parade is possibly the campiest event on earth. Also try CPW late Wednesday night to watch the balloon inflation, a religious ritual for many.)

NY AREA BISEXUAL NETWORK Thanksgiving Celebration, 718/353-8245

THE GAY AND LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD OF NEW YORK is Staffed Today, until midnight, 777-1800 (Editor's note: For many gay men and lesbians, a Thanksgiving visit home can be a thankless ordeal. SWBD volunteers are ready to empathize.)

EAGLE'S NEST Post-Feast Party with holiday buffet, hosted by Larry Guttenburg of WBAI-FM; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 10 pm - 2 am; \$2 (percentage of which goes to PWA Coalition); info 532-0290

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 24

HOME BOX OFFICE presents *Reno in Rage and Rehab*, a live performance originally taped at PS 122, 4:30 am (late Thursday/early Friday); HBO info 512-1208 (also airs 11/29)

COOPER SQUARE THEATRE presents *NOSEJOB: She Had to Model*, a new musical comedy by William Love, the story of Tara Felchberger, a 17-year-old Barbizon graduate from Great Neck, LI who happens to be 6'4" with a nose like Karl Malden, who is in considerable denial about being a model; starring William "Jasmine Allspice" Love as Tara, with Debra Granieri (*Women Behind Bars*), Paul Phinney, Michael-Stewart Peters, Gerard "Mr. Fashion" Little, Kevin Bain, and Michael T; 50 E 7 St; 10:30 pm; \$5; 228-0811 (also 12/1)

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25

CENTER 4th Saturday Dance, with DJ Peter Arden, cash bar, snacks and juice; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 9 pm - 1 am; \$8 general/\$6 members, seniors, students; 620-7310

EIGHTY EIGHTS presents *The Flirtations*, 228 W 10 St, 11 pm, \$10 + two drink minimum, 924-0088

L'BARON at **VISIONS Thanksgiving Bash**, for men and women, women admitted free tonight and every Thursday; 56-01 Queens Blvd, Woodside; 718/899-9031 for table reservations

SPECTRUM DISCO presents **Inner City**, singing "Good Life" and "Big Pun"; 802 64th St, Bay Ridge, Brooklyn (N train to 8th Ave stop); opens at 9 pm; 718/238-8213

THE SAINT AT LARGE "Saint" Saturday Nights, with tonight's DJ Michael Fierman, lights by

Richard Sabala, and live entertainment; at the address of the original Saint, with lower level lounge, upper level light show, balcony viewing area; 105 2nd Ave (at 6 St); doors open 11 pm; \$15 (door only); 674-8541 (also 12/9)

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26

BISEXUAL YOUTH Meeting & Pot Luck Lunch at a member's house; 718/353-8245

BISEXUAL PRIDE Focus Group: *Let's Talk About Sex: Fear & Loathing in the Age of AIDS*, at the Center, 208 W 13 St, 3 pm, \$5, 718/353-8245

L'BARON at VISIONS Mister L'Baron Finals, 56-01 Queens Blvd, Woodside; 718/899-9031 for table reservations

MONDAY NOVEMBER 27

BRONX AIDS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT Clinical Trials Workshop, 665-4907

CENTER STAGE sees *Artist Descending a Staircase*, by Tom Stoppard; at the Helen Hayes Theatre; 8 pm; \$45; 620-7310

THE CLOSET CASE SHOW presents *Jeffrey's Drug and Lie Detector Test*, an encore broadcast, by popular demand, of a shocking, secretly videotaped interview at which our hero applies for a job with the Kweez Beer Company; Manhattan Cable, Channel C/16, midnight

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 28

PWA COALITION Forum: Dr. Jack Rosenberg, Lambda Center of Dental Health, discussing dental/oral health care for PWAs and HIV+'s; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7:30 pm; free; 532-0290

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 29

CENTER SPORTS sees Nabisco Masters Men's Tennis, mid-week matches; at Madison Square Garden, 33rd St & 7th Ave; 5:30 pm; \$30 members/\$40 non-members; 620-7310

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES At Home With the Archives, 874-7232

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH Jewish Education Courses; tonight: *Hebrew Language Reading Class* at 7:30 pm, *Biblical Women: The Deboras & Female Prophet-Priests in Antiquity* at 8 pm; at 57 Bethune St; info 929-9498

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: *Major League*; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451

HOME BOX OFFICE presents *Reno in Rage and Rebab*, a live performance originally taped at PS 122, 11:40 pm; HBO info 512-1208

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 30

IN OUR OWN WRITE presents poet Mark Ameen and writer Jacque Bishop; "this eclectic pairing of white gay male and black lesbian poets/ performers/ actors/ singers/ dancers/ liars/ writers/ producers/ activists/ liars is sure to produce good times and bad attitudes," at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7:30 pm; \$3; 620-7310

LA MAMA E.T.C. presents the opening of *Ancient Boys*, Jean Claude van Itallie's focus on the impact of AIDS on American artists; 74A E 4 St; 475-7710 (performances THUR-SUN through Dec. 17)

FRIDAY DECEMBER 1

International AIDS Awareness Day

CENTER DANCE COMMITTEE Cut Off Date for Dedicating a Brass Heart Ornament for the *Tree of Life*, a tribute to those who have died of AIDS; ornaments engraved with their names will be on display from December 10 (unveiled at the Center's Winter Social) through December 26; 208 W 13 St; info 889-4099 (sponsors may pick up their ornament, for a memento, after New Year's Day)

WOMEN ABOUT Cut-off date for Broadway Show, 874-2104

Save These Dates

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH Masquerade
COLUMBIA GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE First Friday Dance

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

GAY OFFICERS ACTION LEAGUE Christmas Party
DAVID HOCKNEY and ANNIE LEIBOVITZ co-chair an Auction for ACT UP
N.Y. ADVERTISING & COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK Holiday Party
INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN IDENTITY and HARVEY FIERSTEIN Theater Benefit: *Songs for Drella*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

COALITION FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS Holiday Party

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

COMMUNITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE Night of 1000 Trees

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

CENTER NYC Orientation

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

FEATURE (Gallery) Reception for Tom of Finland & Bastille Exhibit

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER/N.Y. Dance: *Rhythm Nation*
STONEWALL CHORALE Holiday Concert
CENTER and TEAM NEW YORK 2nd Saturday Dance

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

CENTER DANCE COMMITTEE Winter Social
CENTER DANCE COMMITTEE "Tree of Life" Unveiling
JUDITH'S ROOM Book Party
THE VILLAGE GATE presents Jokin' Off for GMHC

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

THE NETWORK Holiday Party of 1000

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

NY AREA BISEXUAL NETWORK Annual Holiday Party
GIRTH AND MIRTH Holiday Party
FRONT RUNNERS Holiday Party
PROFESSIONALS IN FILM/VIDEO First Annual Holiday Party

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS
10th Anniversary Holiday Concert

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS
10th Anniversary Holiday Concert

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH
Chanukah First Evening Dinner

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT, MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER, SALSA SOUL SISTERS Kwanza Celebration

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

CENTER DANCE COMMITTEE New Year's Eve Ball

NEA from page 17

of sex, a fear of fucking [which] has played a role in American politics since time immemorial."

The exhibit opened Thursday night, when approximately 50 demonstrators were on hand amongst the crowd of nearly 400 which had gathered to see the exhibition.

Upon hearing of the decision to relinquish the funds, Wyatt said she was "glad" to hear the news, adding "We have found that art is powerful and beautiful and that free speech, free expression for artists and public funding for the arts are of tremendous value to everyone in our society."

But Nan Goldin, the curator of the show, was not nearly as conciliatory. "I support the peer panel review process already in place at the NEA," she stated, "But I do not trust or support John Froehmayer." ▼

Corrections

In *OutWeek* No. 22 (November 19) photos in two feature stories, "Tripping the Night Fantastic" and "What's A Girl To Do?", were miscaptioned and miscredited. A photo on page 40, which was captioned "Party girls at the Duchess," should have instead identified Elizabeth Foris and Phyllis Eakin of the Cubby Hole.

The photo captions on pages 38 and 43 were accidentally switched, as were the credits. The photo on page 38 was taken by T.L. Litt, and the photo on page 43 was taken by Tracy Mostovoy. An uncredited photo appearing on page 39 was taken by Diana Osterfeld. We regret these errors and apologize to the photographers as well as the photo subjects.

The performance *Filler Up!* will not run on November 24 at Theater Club Funambules, but will be showing December 30th at 8:00 p.m. at Don't Tell Mama. ▼

OUT TAKES from page 29

out story," said Holm. "Because each of us here face the water cannons and then reach down and help one more gay man or lesbian out into freedom."

To create their own change back home, the conference participants discussed their own tools of change, which included direct action, political lobbying and social pressure. At other workshops, some chose to deal more closely with other issues facing the gay and lesbian movement, such as sexism, racism and the "de-gaying and re-gaying" of AIDS. Others focused on community-building matters like starting gay and lesbian campus groups and reaching out to older gay men and lesbians.

Throughout the weekend, the activists shared information with each other on everything from the merits of evaporated milk as a political poster paste to the impact of orchestrated mail campaigns on legislators.

One central focus of the Veteran's Day weekend conference weekend was the Defense Department policy exclusion of lesbians and gay men from military service.

Sgt. Perry Watkins, the defendant in an ongoing case which seeks to rescind the military's anti-gay policy, highlighted the issue in his keynote address. Telling his tale of being denied reenlistment from the Army in 1982 despite his openly gay presence in the Army for 15 years, Watkins underscored the relevance of his fight to the gay and lesbian movement at large.

Speaking at a rally across the street from the White House later that afternoon, nearly 200 activists followed him and another dozen gay and lesbian veterans to call on the president to overturn the policy, which officially denies gay men and lesbians the right to enlist.

The conference, a national gay and lesbian leadership seminar for activists from across the nation, was established as one of four agenda items coming out of the "War Conference," a 1988 exclusive retreat for 200 of the nation's gay and lesbian activists. The 1990 conference will be held in Minneapolis. —Cliff O'Neill

Health care in the streets

NEW YORK—A \$25,000 grant from the Insurance Industry AIDS Initiative (IIAI) will help fund the Community Health Project's (CHP) new program to provide HIV prevention information and medical services for street youth.

According to CHP, the program is being launched to address the needs of adolescents living on the streets of New York, including many runaways who are often homeless, crack-addicted and working as prostitutes. One of the most medically undeserved groups in New York, street youths are at especially high risk for HIV infection, according to AIDS advocates.

The Insurance Industry AIDS Initiative was established earlier this year by the American Council of Life Insurance and the Health Insurance Association of America to help fund community-based AIDS education and care-giving programs around the country. The IIAI grant program is part of a larger response by 128 life and health insurance companies who have pledged over \$18 million to fund AIDS projects.

"There is an appalling lack of health care services geared to these disenfranchised adolescents," said Rona Affoumado, Executive Director of the CHP. "Our program will provide outreach, preventive health education, assessment and examinations from a medical van on the streets. We also plan to offer uniquely tailored support services to facilitate access for street youth to existing health care institutions."

Affoumado explained that the obstacles to administering health care to this population are two-fold. The first challenge is to convince the adolescents to seek medical treatment," she said. "But when youths are brought to a clinic or hospital," she continued, "they are frequently unable to work within the institution's rules or handle the long waiting peri-

ods for treatment.

"We specifically designed our program to get around these problems," she added. "We plan to bring our services to the street where these adolescents live and deliver them in a way they can relate to. We will have a fully-equipped van staffed by a physician, a nurse and a counselor. The van team will provide education on HIV/AIDS and other health concerns, distribute condoms, test for sexually-transmitted diseases and tuberculosis, perform basic medical examinations and work with other health and social service facilities when necessary."

The program is scheduled to be in full operation by January, 1990. The van teams will consist of both paid employees and volunteers, who will work to build on-going relationships with the youths.

Formed in 1983, the CHP provides a wide range of services, including primary care for HIV/AIDS, general medical care, health education, psychosocial support services, nutritional counseling, health services geared to women and adolescents, screening and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and referrals to medical specialists.

Although the CHP's patients are predominantly gay and lesbian, everyone is welcome to use its services. CHP can be reached by calling (212) 675-3559.

Anchored down in...

ANCHORAGE—On the heels of an \$18,000 survey of sexual orientation discrimination, which showed that 71 percent of gay and lesbian Alaskans have experienced anti-gay bias, the gay community of Anchorage has begun the push for a gay civil rights bill.

A similar bill actually passed the Municipal Assembly in 1976, but the mayor vetoed it. According to key activist Jay Brause, there was a "glum feeling" in the community for several years thereafter and, although a community center was built in 1976, there

was not sufficient motivation to push for a civil rights measure until the release of the new report.

The 106-page document—entitled "Sexual Orientation Bias in Alaska"—was funded by the Chicago Resource Center Foundation and prepared by the gay community-based Identity, Inc. According to Brause, extensive surveys revealed that 31 percent of Anchorage employers "would not hire, would not promote or would fire someone they had reason to believe was homosexual." The percentage of landlords admitting to similar prejudice was 20 percent, a figure activists say is artificially low because of the current housing glut in oil-producing states.

The report has been forwarded to the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission (ERC), which has established a committee to report back to the full commission. The commission will then decide whether to recommend that the Municipal Assembly pass anti-discrimination protections for gays and lesbians.

In the meantime, activists have

formed the Campaign for Civil Rights. The group turned out 250 participants Oct. 30 for a four-and-one-half hour hearing called by the ERC committee.

"We realize we have a conservative administration right now," Brause said. "Our priorities are to meet with ERC commissioners, organize supportive organizations and mobilize individuals to support the rights of gay and lesbian people."

Anchorage, with a metro population of 225,000, has two gay bars, a few gay social groups and an extensive network of women's services—"from spirituality to massage to political action to survivors and recovery programs," Brause said.

Alaska's five major groups of indigenous people (Eskimos) are not extensively involved in either the gay community or the fight for a civil rights bill, according to Brause, "primarily because not enough friendships have been made along racial lines to have skilled people to draw upon."

—Rex Wockner



The Cubbyhole

438 Hudson Street
at Morton
(212) 243-9079

A neighborhood bar for both gay men & women



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Community Directory

To list your non-profit organization in our community directory, call Tom Eubanks at 212/685-5277.

A.C.Q.C.

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ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power)
496A Hudson Street, Suite G4 NYC 10014
(212) 989-1114

A diverse, non-partisan group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action to end the AIDS crisis. Gen. meetings Mon. nights 7:30, the Community Center 208 W. 13th.

ARCS (AIDS-Related Community Services)
for Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties. AIDS education, client services, crisis intervention, support groups, case management, buddy and hospital visitor program.
214 Central Ave., White Plains, NY 10606 (914) 993-0606
838 Broadway, Newburgh, NY 12550 (914) 562-5005
AIDSline (914) 993-0607

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Social, political and support networking group for women and their friends. Regular social events and meetings on the first and third Friday's of every month. At The Community Center, 208 W. 13 Street, from 6:30-8pm. For more info call Lisa at (212) 829-9817.

BODY POSITIVE
If you or your lover has tested HIV+, we offer support groups, seminars, public forums, reference library, referrals, social activities and up-to-date national monthly, "THE BODY POSITIVE" (\$15/year).
(212) 633-1782.
2095 Broadway, Suite 306, NYC, NY 10023

CIRCLE OF MORE LIGHT
Spiritual support and sharing in a gay/lesbian affirmative group.
West-Park Presbyterian Church
165 West 86th Street
Wed: worship service 6:30 p.m., program 7:30.
Marsha (212) 304-4373 Charlie (212) 691-7118.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT
208 West 13th Street, NYC, New York 10011
For Appointments and Information (212) 675-3559 PROVIDING CARING, SENSITIVE AND LOW COST HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO THE LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE
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NY's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue Services
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For info. call: (212) 929-9498.

DIGNITY NEW YORK
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The Cathedral Project.
Worship Services & Social-Sun. Eves. 7:30pm-
St. John's Episcopal Church 218 West 11th
Street @ Waverly-675-2179

EDGE
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Community. (212) 989-1921
P.O. Box 305 Village Station, New York, NY
10014

FEMME SUPPORT GROUP
For lesbians who self identify as Femme. For
info and meeting times call Lisa at (212) 829-
9817. No men please.

FRONT RUNNERS
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For information: call (212) 724-9700.

THE FUND FOR HUMAN DIGNITY
National Gay and Lesbian Crisis Line
"AIDS 800---1-800-SOS-GAYS"
Educational Resource Center, Positive Images Media Center; NY State Arts Program
666 B'way Suite 410 NYC, NY 10012 (212) 529-1600

**THE GAY AFRICAN AMERICANS
OF WESTCHESTER(The G.A.A.)**
is a community based support group formed in Westchester County. Various activities are planned for the coming months.
Please call 914-376-0727 for more info.

GLAAD
Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation
80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 (212) 966-1700
GLAAD combats homophobia in the media and elsewhere by promoting visibility of the lesbian and gay community and organizing grassroots response to anti-gay bigotry.

GAY & LESBIAN HEALTH CONCERN

An office of the NYC Dept. of Health, provides linkages between NYC Health & Human Svcs, and the Lesbian & Gay community, focusing in ALL health concerns; resource information for health services consumers and providers. 125 Worth Street, Box 67, New York, NY 10013. For info call (212) 566-4995.

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(212) 727-9878.

GMAD(GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT)

80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 a support group of Gay Men of African Descent dedicated to consciousness-raising and the development of the Lesbian and Gay Community. GMAD is inclusive of African, African-American, Caribbean and Hispanic/Latino men of color. Meetings are held, weekly, on Fridays. For more information, call 718-802-0162.

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE
FOR INFORMATION ON SAFER SEX AND HIV-RELATED HEALTH SERVICES, AND FOR INFORMATION ON ONE-TIME, WALK-IN AIDS COUNSELING SERVICES
212-807-6555

212-645-7470 TDD (For the Hearing Impaired)
Mon.-Fri. 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sat 12:00 to 3:00

HEAL (Health Education AIDS Liaison)
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Wed 8pm. 208 W. 13th St. (212) 674-HOPE.

HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE
for lesbian and gay youth. Counseling, drop-in center (M-F, 3-6pm), rap groups, Harvey Milk High School, AIDS and safer sex information, referrals, professional education.
(212) 633-8920(voice)
(212) 633-8926 TTY for deaf

HISPANIC UNITED GAYS & LESBIANS
Educational services, political action, counseling and social activities in Spanish and English by and for the Latino Lesbian and Gay Community. General meetings 8:00 p.m. 4th Thursday of every month at 208 West 13th Street.
Call (212) 691-4181
or write H.U.G.L., P.O. Box 226 Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10019.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND

Precedent-setting litigation nationwide for lesbians, gay men and people with AIDS. Membership (\$35 and up) inc. newsletter and invitations to special events. Volunteer night on Thursdays. Intake calls: 2-4pm Mon thru Fri (212) 995-8585

LAVA (LESBIANS ABOUT VISUAL ART)

Call for slides for Lesbian Artists' Exhibition, Gay & Lesbian Community Center, NYC. For more information, send SASE to:

Miriam Fouger
118 Fort Greene Place
Brooklyn, NY 11217.

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LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

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LESBIAN AND GAY NETWORK

An organization of Lesbians and Gays who are active in their labor unions working on domestic partnership benefits and AIDS issues. For more information call (212) 923-8690.

LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS PROJECT of the American Civil Liberties Union

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS / WE'RE EXPANDING THEM (212) 944-9800, ext. 545

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METROPOLITAN TENNIS GROUP(MTG)

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MOCA

Men of Color AIDS Prevention Program. Provides safer sex and AIDS education information to gay and bisexual Men of Color; coordinates a network of health education providers and peer-support groups for gay and bisexual Men of Color in all 5 boroughs of New York City. MOCA is located at 303 Ninth Ave., New York, NY 10001, or call (212) 239-1796.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

is the national grassroots political organization for lesbians and gay men. Membership is \$30/year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing and direct action. NGLTF 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009. (202) 332-6483.

NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

NYACN is the community's largest gay and lesbian professional group, welcoming all in communications--advertising, PR, marketing, media, graphic design, illustration, photography, copywriting, journalism, publishing, radio, TV and film--and their friends. Monthly meetings, 3rd Wed 6:30pm at the Community Center. Members' newsletter, job hotline, annual directory. Phone (212) 517-0380 for more info. Mention OutWeek for one free newsletter.

NINTH STREET CENTER

Since 1973, a community dedicated to demonstrating that a homosexual lifestyle is a rational, desirable choice for individuals dissatisfied with the rewards of conventional living. Psychologically - focussed rap groups, Tues., Sat., 8 to 10 pm. peer counselling available. 319 E. 9 Street, New York, NY 10003, for info call (212) 228-5153.

NORTH AMERICAN MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOCIATION (NAMBLA)

Dedicated to sexual freedom and especially interested in gay intergenerational relationships. Monthly Bulletin and regular chapter meetings on the first Saturday of each month. Yearly membership is \$20; write NAMBLA, PO Box 174, Midtown Station, New York, NY 10018 or call (212) 807-8578 for information.

NORTHERN LIGHTS ALTERNATIVES

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PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION

(212) 532-0290 / Hotline (212) 532-0568 Monday thru Friday 10am-6pm

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PEOPLE WITH AIDS HEALTH GROUP

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SAGE: (Senior Action in a Gay Environment)

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a program of Brooklyn community volunteers providing a weekly buffet supper for the Brooklyn AIDS community.

Occasional programs of information, education and entertainment. TOUCH meets Monday eves. 5p.m. to 6:30p.m. at downtown Brooklyn Friends Meeting House (110 Schermerhorn St. near Boerum Place). Limited transportation may be arranged.

Info: (718) 622-2756. TOUCH welcomes contributions of funds, food and volunteers.

ULSTER COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE

Meets first and third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church on Sawkill Road in Kingston.

For information, call (914) 626-3203.

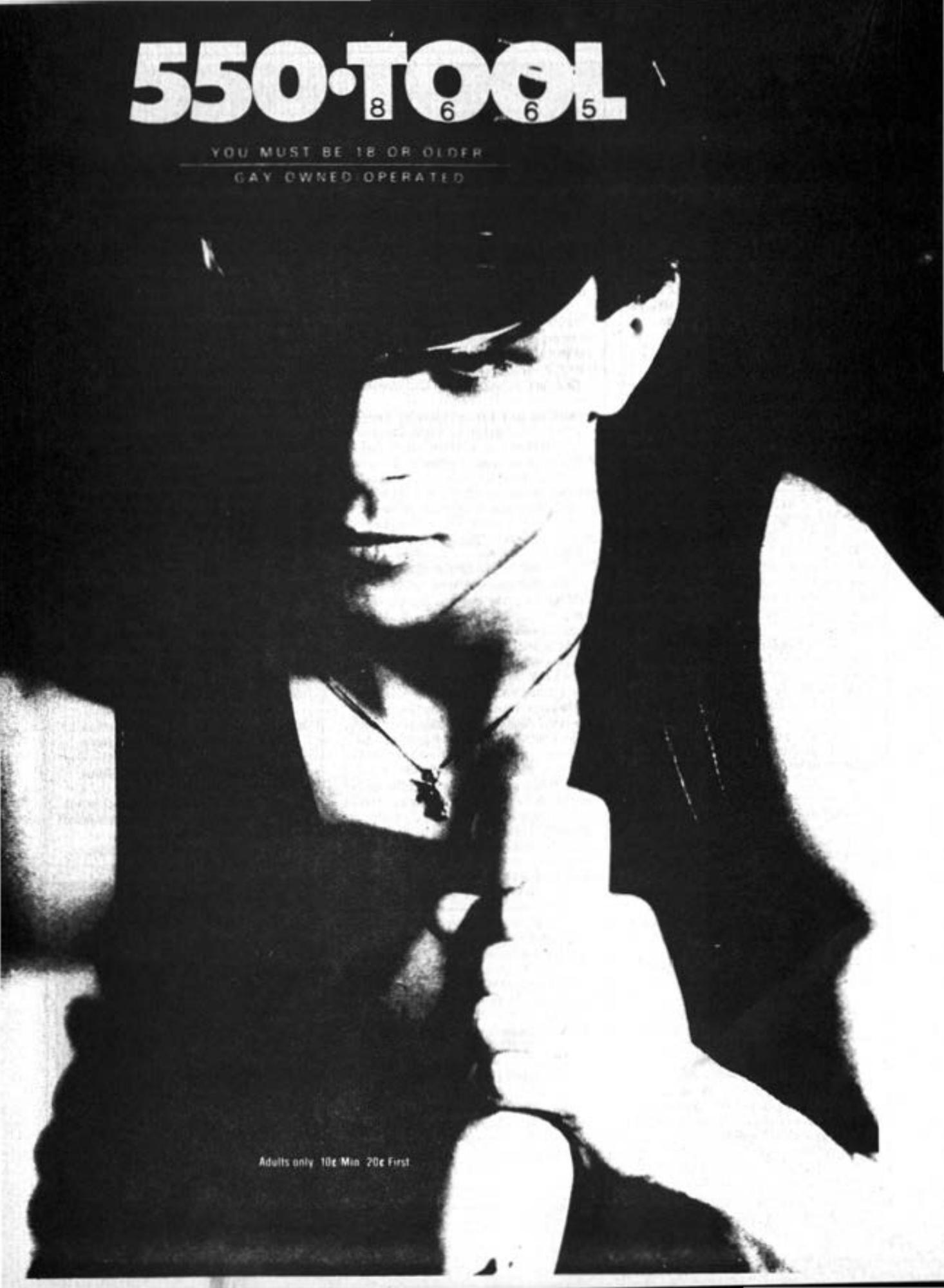
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DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL NURSING

This position - key to the management of clinical trials - requires experience in clinical research & work in a community-based organization. Candidates should have a bachelors degree in nursing & a masters degree in Nursing or another health related field, and experience working with AIDS clinical research trials. Please submit your resume with cover letter to: Nursing Dept, Community Research Initiative, 31 W. 26 Street, NYC 10010.

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CLINICAL RESEARCH NURSES

Registered Nurses with experience in AIDS research & care delivery are encouraged to submit their resumes for consideration for upcoming clinical trials. Please submit your resume with cover letter to: Nursing Department Community Research Initiative, 31 West 26 Street, New York, NY 10010. Equal Opportunity Employer.

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for AIDS service agency seeks exp. (2-3 years) exec. assistant. Reports to Executive Director. Position requires excellent communication skills, WP experience, high energy, level good benefits/salary pkg. Salary based on experience. Send resume to: Mark Ketchan, AIDS Resource Center 24 West 30th St. NYC 10001. AIDS Resource is an E.O.E.

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GWM, 30 years old, wishes to relocate to NYC. I'm looking for affordable housing or reduced rent in exchange for nursing services. I'm a Licensed Practical Nurse. I'm open to other possibilities. I have excellent references per your request. I can travel to NYC for an interview. Write to: Bob Cooper
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SECRETSES

PERSONALS

J/O BUDDIES
GWM, 40, 5'11", 165#, looking for men who love hot J/O sessions. Exhib./voy. videos. Extra hung and or hairy a+. Photo/Phone to Box 126, 70A Greenwich Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

PORNO STAR, 25
Now that I have your attention, let me take the opportunity to reveal that I'm actually a 45 year-old teacher who, according to the latest OUTWEEK poll, many believe still has "it". Hey, why not check it out? Phone and photo, por favor, to D.L. POB 20089, NYC 10017.

HUNGRY FOR RICE
GWM, Hispanic, 35, 5'10", 165#, hairy chest, moustache, attractive, sincere, educated, witty, smart, myriad interests. Seeks sparkling friendship with good-loo king, neat, bright, romantic, sensitive Asian 18-29, smooth body, thick, straight hair, nice smile. Both of us are affectionate, caring and love to learn, laugh, kiss and enjoy life. Send detailed letter/photo in confidence. Let's meet and get started. Outweek Box 1677

R U MAN ENUF?
Musc. handsome GWM, Br/B 5'10" 175, 34, wks out, has rel., seeks well-def very musc. guy for hot wday SS. FR A/P chest hair a must. YR pic gets mine, Box 306, Bklyn, NY 11217.

GAY ASIAN
Gay male couple mid-twenties likes music, horror movies, and

creative projects. Seeks Asian male 20-30 for friendship. A good sense of humor a must. Write Box 697 Midwood New York 11230.

COLLEGE GUY
I'm an adventurous, attractive, tall, blonde, nice guy looking for fun. I'm 21, 6'1", an artist with a good trim body, 160 lb., top, who

DOMINANT
Intelligent highly ego-centered MASTER looking to own, control, humiliate and abuse willing slave who will give himself over and follow MY directions. Stats unimportant. ATTITUDE is! Submit application and phone number to P.O. Box 292, NY 10024.

YOUR NAME IS...
Jack. You are a GWM, 28, gym body, dark hair, IQ 138, HIV neg, an Actor, recently moved here from LA, attend Unity, drink Ricard, do some writing, believe in "Do It Now!" I'm like you, handsome, warm, pining, seek love and support. Let's meet! Ph/Ph to Box 7493, NYC, 10163.

Photo/write to: Outweek Box 1706

CURIOSLY SENSIBLE
yet crazed professional GM seeks dinner date or hot sex with smart, hairy, absurd GM between 5'3" and 6'8". Unusual table manners, tendency to interrupt OK; conversational enthusiasm, good tongue technique are pluses. P.O. Box 270, Bowling Green Station, NY NY 10274.

PERSONALS OF THE WEEK

GF-ARE YOU MY TYPE?
20's, antiracist, long curly hair, grn/br eyes, ample, tough, broad, not tall, physical, good hands. I want YOU. I am 22, 5'7", 125 lbs., short blonde hair, blue eyes, sensitive, w/ good hands. Tell me a little bit about yourself, but keep some secrets, please! Photo/write to: Outweek Box 1706

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yet crazed professional GM seeks dinner date or hot sex with smart, hairy, absurd GM between 5'3" and 6'8". Unusual table manners, tendency to interrupt OK; conversational enthusiasm, good tongue technique are pluses. P.O. Box 270, Bowling Green Station, NY NY 10274.

seeks a new dating, sexual, or relationship adventure (while playing safe) with a fun guy who is in shape, under 30, and has a good sense of humor. A recent photo a must. Outweek Box 1678

GLORY HOLE SERVICE
Hot, no nonsense cocksucker, 34, really gets down for major dudes hung bigger than me (10"). Looks, age, race unimportant, cock size is. Just be hot and ready for a rootmilkin you won't soon forget. DT assured. Serious calls only. No J/O no fags. Duke (212) 691-3601.

SURE OF YOU
Nice hot JM furry, 5'10", 165lb, 33, seeks sim (J/Ital), varied interests, good sense of humor, witty. Non-smks. Great d (romance, cuddle, Kink) and in your arms. Drop a note (photo/phone, pise.) It may change our lives. Outweek Box 1701

BE MY KIND BROTHER?
GWM, 38, seeks younger jock for chumming around and incestuous (but safe) good times prefer Blonds, but open if you like books, music, theater. Ltr/Pic to POB 3182, Ridgewood, NY 11386.

NICE GUY
Wants to fuck you. Hdme married WM 40's, 5'8", 150lb, sensual, masculine and sane. Highly charged action for tight rear or deep throat. Fussy about cleanliness. Any race. No drugs. Not recommended for those under 35. PO Box 1061, Church Street Stn, New York 10006.

INSATIABLE FR/A
Attr 40 yr blind, very oral and HIV neg. sks well-hung FR/P for hot times. I'm talented, 0...educated, affectionate. Age and race not as important as dick & attitude. Photo a plus. Write Fox, P.O. Box 20161, Midtown Station, New York City 10129.

GF-ARE YOU MY TYPE?
20's, antiracist, long curly hair, grn/br eyes, ample, tough, broad, not tall, physical, good hands. I want YOU. I am 22, 5'7", 125 lbs., short blonde hair, blue eyes, sensitive, w/ good hands. Tell me a little bit about yourself, but keep some secrets, please!

GAY AND INTERRACIAL
GJM, 40, 5'10", 155 lbs., cute, blue eyes and wise desires masculine black top man, 30 and older. Sensitive and mature to explore who we are. Foto/phone if possible. P.O. Box 20, NYC, NY 10012.

GUYS IN SUITS
Professional, GWM, 31, with eclectic tastes looking for Wall Street type who know how to leave the office behind. Am bribr, 145, clean shaven, work out, look good. Photo/phone to Outweek Box 1712

DO YOU PLAY?
GBF fun-loving, smart, cute, into movies, long walks, good conversation seeks feminine, career-minded, silly, spiritually aware, sex-loving GF any race for friendship first. No BiF please. 25-40. Write Outweek Box 1635.

HEY NINA!
I never thought I'd write a personal ad but here goes... Remember me and you on the LIRR talking about ecofeminism, Jamaica Plain, acupuncture, and the beach? Well, I'd like to talk some more... Outweek Box 1636

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TRAVEL MUCH?
I am planning my first trip to Amsterdam or Sitges or Ibiza. I welcome any suggestions about hotels, bars, discos, men. Thanks. Patrick Pope, Box 967, Libertyville, IL, 60048. (I'll send you stamps.)

CHUBBY QWM
Babyfaced 39, 5'5", 200, br;br, cln, shv., hairy chest & belly, uncut, seeks masculine, well-built chasers, 20-45. Midtown Manhattan, day or night. Enjoy sweaty body con-

tact, tit play, jo possible. SAFE Fr/gr. Your photo gets mine. TJ, Box 112, Executive Suite, 330 West 42nd Street, NYC, 10036-6902. Ethnic, BB a plus.

LESBIAN COUPLE
Straight WM desires GF couple for adventurous sex. Let me be your plaything. I'm tall, good-looking, 35. Interested? Photo/phone Write Outweek Box 1643

HAD TO BE YOU?
GWM 28 5'6" 145 lbs.

brown/moustache Cuban film buff seeks GM 25-35 to share popcorn and other good things. Photo/phone/letter POB 2522 West NY, NJ 07093. No drugs/smoking or bull-

HOT AND SULTRY
19 yo Hispanic/Italian GM, 6' 150, with Uomo Vogue beauty, fun to be with. I want to meet young GM's to go out to movies, theatre, concerts, dinners and more! Send photo/phone to POB 570, NYC 11004.

"ANOREXOPHILE"
GWM, 35, 6'-1", 165 solid lbs., masculine, safe, secure, often sane, Ivy grad, homeowner; likes skiing, cycling, arts, mechanics; seeks honest GM, 24 to 36, with innate, truly toothpick-thin build and no chemical dependencies, for perm. relationship. Please reply (include interests, height, weight) to P.O. Box 9252, Morristown, NJ 07963.

LOVE TO EAT ASS
WM, 38, 5'11", 165

lbs., dark hair, clean-cut, healthy, is looking for hot guys who love to have their ass eaten as much as I enjoy doing it. Squat down, push out and let me enjoy your ass inside and out for a long time. All races welcome. Outweek Box 1647

R U AN EXHIBITIONIST
GW amtr fotog needs exp w new equipment. Nds your hot, hard, horny bodies to pose. You get all rolls of color, enlgd prints and negs free, your place. Ph/ph# P OB 2214, NY, NY 10036.

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NEED QUICK FIX
You combine looks and habits of Nick Cave with Ian Curtis anguish. I will supply the boredom. I like pallor and earrings, dislike pets and muscles. Skinny literates a+. Write and send four photobooth snaps. Age 25-35. Outweek Box 1653

BOTTOM SEEKS UN-CUT TOP
GWM, 32 bottom, 5'9", 175lb, Gr eyes, balding, Blond, masculine, good looks, seeks uncut lover under 36 yrs. I live in Queens (718) 321-0344, please NO FATS, fems, or phone sex, no calls after midnight!

REDHD BB
into GBM attract bdy-blrd, 5'8", 160lb, 40yr, HIV status unknown-safe sex of course, UR masc, well built, interest in social change, metaphysics, wit hot times. Bennett, PO 977, Old Chelsea Stn, NY 10011.

DOWNTOWNLY MOBILE
Artist, 36, 6', 150lb, Br/Br. Handsome, smoker, cynic. Looking for tough beautiful little guy for sex, love, culture high and low. Letter, phone, photo to

Box 457 Cooper Stn, New York, NY 10276.

MEDITERRANEAN
or Latin, brown eyes, tan, or dk hair, clean-cut, masculine, cute, WANTED. Also warm, affectionate, fit, intellectual, romantic, not too hairy. Just a basic, nonpretentious nice guy who likes to try many things, loves cities, travel, books, beaches, cycling, conversation, pleasure. 25-35 yr. olds send letter/foto to me, GWM 61, 158, 29, prof, br/bl, cute, very healthy, playful and friendly, fit masc., no republicans or wild partiers: POB 1316, NYC, 10009

CHUBBY VILLIAN
OK, 'Rasslin' fans! GWM, babyfaced 39, 5' 5", 200, cln shv, hairy chest & gut, uncut, accepts challenges from well-built, masculine studs under 40 to sweat out your hottest, wildest, wrestling/combat fantasies in my Midtown apt. day/night. No 'real' wrestling, but our "match can be as fun, erotic and/or 'brutal'" as u want! In gear or nude; oil, "dirty" holds, hot V/A tits, jo. SAFE Fr/gr, Ph/ph to TJ, box 112, EXECUTIVE SUITE, 330 West 42nd St., NYC 10036. Ethnic a plus.

DISCIPLINARIAN
urgently sought by paunchy, balding GWM brat, 29. If you are short on patience and long on punishment-please respond so on. I am truly obnoxious. Write Outweek Box 1660

JUST FRIENDS!
B/W Gay couple in late 20's with many interests. He likes fashion, I watch (fake) wrestling, we like horror movies, good conversation and enjoy life! We are looking for new friends btwn 22-35, race and looks not important but sense of humor is a must. If you would like to meet or just talk - write to Special K PO Box 697 Midwood, New York 11230.

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(516)
(718)
(914)

970-3425

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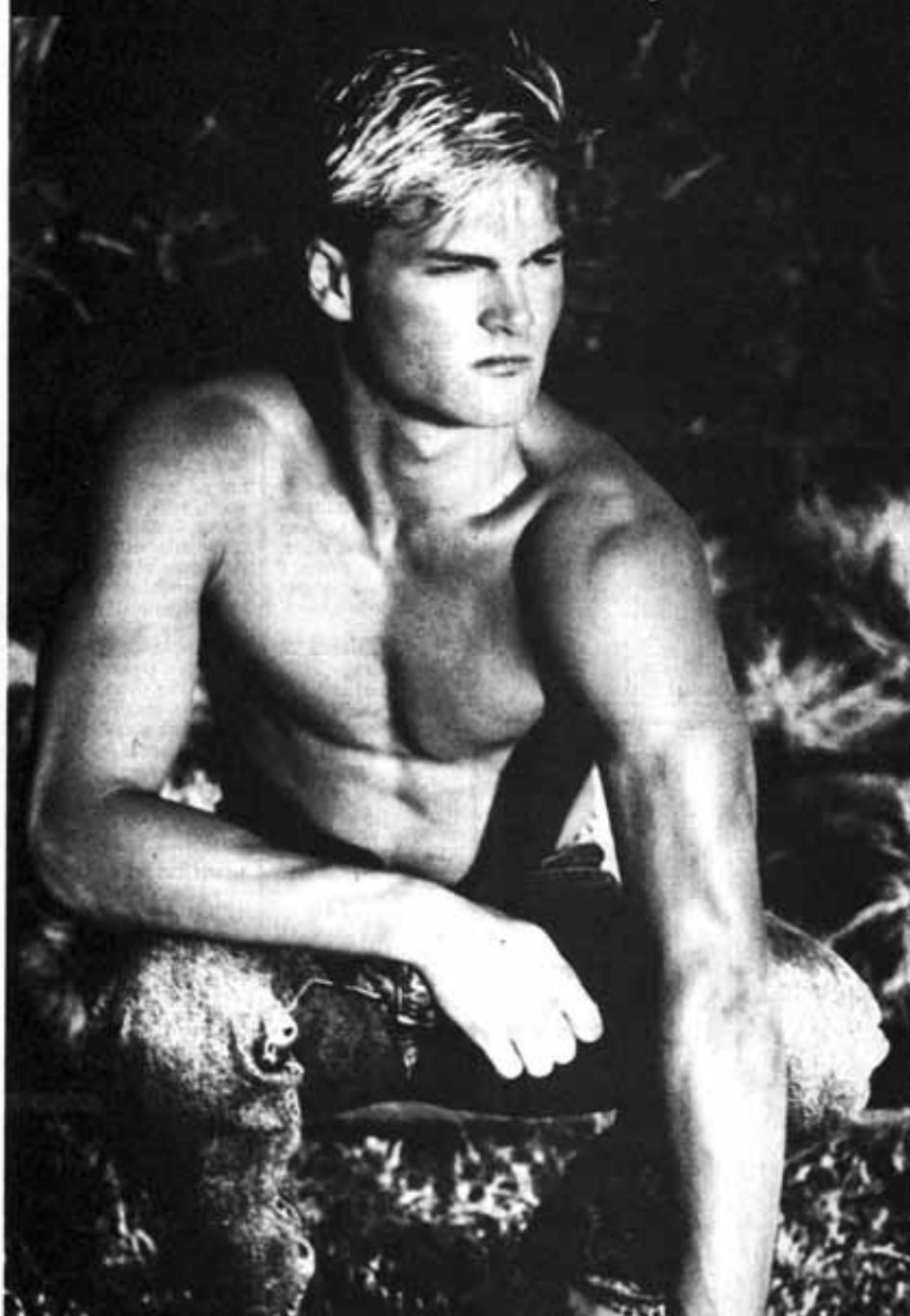


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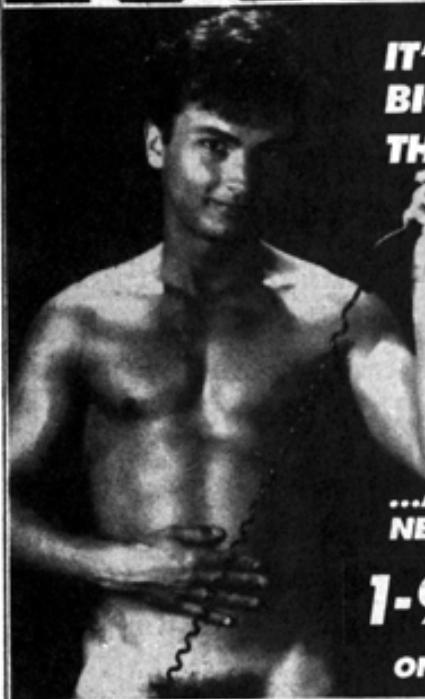


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SLAVE OF NEW YORK

I have this love/hate relationship with NYC and I live in Brooklyn! Can you provide enough of a distraction so I don't notice NY? I'm always ready for adventure#5,243, Willing to share all-would like to meet you if you're in late 30's to late 40's, in great shape, physically, mentally and spiritually. Love facial hair & live in Brooklyn-but none of the above is essential! Your sense of adventure is more important than the size of your endowment. HIV+ and very healthy!! Outweek Box 1607

JUNIOR PARTNER

I'm old enough, confident enough, successful enough for a younger boyfriend. GWM, 50, attractive, in excellent shape, with taste, style, means, and interesting international life seeks GWM, 20's or 30's, who is very goodlooking, clear thinking, healthy, smart, ambitious, sincere, not too conventional or sentimental. If you come reasonably close, respond with photo and I'll reply. Outweek Box 1608

BLOND/REDHEAD
is wanted by 33 GWM dark hair hairy hot passionate and honest serious about relationship. U R 18-35 slim clean shaven smooth bottom and serious European a+, PH/PH must Box 1536, NYC 10276.

"IS IT YOU?"
Are you 18-35, young yet mature, masculine but colorful, perhaps shy but ambitious? Are you creative, intelligent, re-

sourceful, admirable, genuine, unique, warm, friendly, attractive, fun loving and loving fun? It's me! Goodlooking nice body well hung W/M 31 5'9" 145lbs. The two parts make a whole in the greatest form of self expression! Is it us? Say yes! PO Box 20595, NYC NY 10009.

GOODLOOKING

Bookish Clean-cut 37y/o WM, 6', 175lbs, BR/BR, insatiable, artistic, supportive, new age, sks sim creative quietly masculine Mid-western man for dating. Box 022045, Bklyn, NY 11202-0044, Sci-Fi fans A+.

I GET LOST:

Those brief and unexpected conversations over the telephone after answering someone's ad., forgotten questions: HIV+? Non-smoker? Clean-shaven? GWM? Was he in his 30's, 5'8", 135lbs, brown hair/eyes, glasses, or attracted to this? And, most important, is he in the arts, does he understand that a poet needs blocks of time alone in which to write and that such a need doesn't forget him - or his? You, too? Write Outweek Box 1624

BROOKLYN BOYS

GWM, 30 BR/BR, healthy good shape romantic many interests seeks younger GM for friend poss. Relatinsh BDM Box 305 Bklyn 11240, send letter and phone all answered.

HOLA, SEÑOR!

Teacher, 45, learning Spanish, seeks Latino man for stimulating conversation. My interests include the arts, karate, computers, and pillow talk. Please send phone and photo to: D.L., POB 20089, NYC 10017. Hasta Luego.

AUTUMN CHANGES

For this hdnsm, GWM, 30, 5'10", 160lb, well built, Italian. Who- due to previous work-loads and travel - is quite single. Professional, with brains and brawn;

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FOR LESBIANS ONLY
2 lesbians seek 3rd for...one hot night. US: sultry femme/butch couple, into non-monog, 3&4 ways, experienced, photo a must, write Outweek Box 1628

PWA SEEKS SAME
GWM, 38, 5'10", 160lbs, BR/BL, clean shaven, educated, healthy. Seeks in-shape HIV+ men for sex, friendship. Turn-ons: liberal politics, finance, working out, tight Levi's/Jockwear. Turn-offs: queens, Republicans, Yankee fans. Outweek Box 1629

MUSICIAN
GWM, 25, 155lb, 6' Hzl/BR, devoted to music. Plays in alternative pop band. Inex-

perienced, straight acting, amusing, amused. Seeks guy with similar interest for friendship +. PH/PH: Outweek Box 1630

GET ARRESTED
Arrogant stud cop 28, muscles, mustache, thick 9" night stick, 6'5", interrogates humiliates strip searches and fucks. Photo a must with letter. You know you need it. Outweek Box 1631

COLLEGE CARE
Innocent(?) student

studying the laws of economics. Supply: GM-21, 5'10", 140lb. Demand: Bl or GM 18-30 into travel, books, music & fun times. Equilibrium: you and me. Photo & phone please. Outweek Box 1632

J/O BUDDIES
GWM, 40, 5'11", 165#, looking for men who love hot J/O sessions. Exhib/voy. videos. Extra hung and/or hairy +. Photo/Phone to Box 126, 70A Greenwich Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

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GWM, Hispanic, 35, 5'10", 165#, hairy chest, moustache, attractive, sincere, educated, witty, smart, myriad interests. Seeks sparkling friendship with good-lookin, neat, bright, romantic, sensitive

Asian 18-29, smooth body, thick, straight hair, nice smile. Both of us are affectionate, caring and love to learn, laugh, kiss and enjoy life. Send detailed letter/photo in confidence. Let's meet and get started. Outweek Box 1677

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999-MEET

GLORY HOLE SERVICE
Hot, no nonsense cock-sucker, 34, really gets down for major dudes hung bigger than me (10"). Looks, age, race unimportant, cock size is. Just be hot and ready for a rootmilkin you won't soon forget. DT assured. Serious calls only. No J/O no fats. Duke (212) 691-3601.

GAY ASIAN

Gay male couple mid-twenties likes music, horror movies, and creative projects. Seeks Asian male 20-30 for friendship. A good sense of humor a must. Write Box 697 Midwood New York 11230.

SURE OF YOU

Nice hot JM furry, 5'10", 165lb, 33, seeks slim (J/Ital), varied interests, good sense of humor, witty. Non-smks. Great d (romance, cuddle, Kink) and in your arms. Drop a note (photo/phone, p.s.e.) It may change our lives. Outweek Box 1701

YOUR NAME IS ...
Jack. You are a GWM, 28, gym body, dark hair, IQ 138, HIV neg, an Actor, recently moved here from LA, attend Unity, drink Ricard, do some writing, believe in "Do It Now!" I'm like you, handsome, warm, pining, seek love and support. Let's meet! Ph/Ph to Box 7493, NYC, 10163.

**BE MY KIND
BROTHER?**

GWM, 38, seeks younger jock for chumming around and incestuous (but safe) good times prefer Blonds, but open if you like books, music, theater. Lt/Pic to POB 3182, Ridgewood, NY 11386.

NICE GUY

Wants to fuck you. Hdsme married WM 40's, 5'8", 150lb, sensual, masculine and sane. Highly charged action for tight rear or deep throat. Fussy about cleanliness. Any race. No drugs. Not

recommended for those under 35. PO Box 1061, Church Street Stn, New York 10008.

**GF-ARE YOU MY
TYPE?**

20's, antiracist, long curly hair, grn/br eyes, ample, tough, broad, not tall, physical, good hands. I want YOU. I am 22, 5'7", 125 lbs., short blonde hair, blue eyes, sensitive, w/good hands. Tell me a little bit about yourself, but keep some secrets. Please! Photo/write to: Outweek Box 1706

CURIOUSLY SENSIBLE
yet crazed professional GM seeks dinner date or hot sex with smart, hairy, absurd GM between 5'3" and 6'8". Unusual table manners, tendency to interrupt OK; conversational enthusiasm, good tongue technique are pluses. P.O. Box 270, Bowling Green Station, NY NY 10274.

INSATIABLE F/R/A
Attr 40 yr blind, very oral and HIV neg. sks well-hung F/R/F for hot times. I'm talented, 0...educated, affectionate. Age and race not as important as dick & attitude. Photo a plus. Write Fox, P.O. Box 20161, Midtown Station, New York City 10129.

LOVING TOP

52, 5'6", 135, HIV-, B+, gentle but masterful seeks 18-35, slim, passionate, devoted boy who's eager to serve and please. Write phone # and tell me why we together could have the world. Outweek Box 1708

**GAY AND
INTERRACIAL**

GJM, 40, 5'10", 155 lbs., cute, blue eyes and wise desires masculine black top man, 30 and older. Sensitive and mature to explore who we are. Foto/phone if possible. P.O. Box 20, NYC, NY 10012.

HEY NINA!
I never thought I'd write a personal ad but here goes... Remember me and you on the LIRR talking about ecofeminism, Jamaica. Plain, acupuncture, and the beach? Well, I'd like to talk some more... Outweek Box 1636

TRAVEL MUCH?

I am planning my first trip to Amsterdam or Sitges or Ibiza. I welcome any suggestions about hotels, bars, discos, men. Thanks. Patrick Pope, Box 967, Libertyville, IL, 60048. (I'll send you stamps.)

CHUBBY GWM

Babyfaced 39, 5'5", 200, br;br, cln, shv., hairy chest & belly, uncut, seeks masculine, well-built chasers, 20-45. Midtown Manhattan, day or night. Enjoy sweaty body contact, sit play, j/o possible. SAFE FoGr. Your photo gets mine. TJ, Box 112, Executive Suite, 330 West 42nd

Street, NYC, 10036-6902. Ethnic, BB a plus.

LESBIAN COUPLE

Straight WM desires GF couple for adventurous sex. Let me be your plaything. I'm tall, good-looking, 35. Interested? Photo/phone Write Outweek Box 1643

HAD TO BE YOU?

GWM 28 5'8" 145 lbs. brown/moustache Cuban film buff seeks GM 25-35 to share popcorn and other good things. Photo/phone/letter POB 2522 West NY, NJ 07093. No drugs/smoking or bull-

HOT AND SULTRY

19 yo Hispanic/Italian GM, 6' 150, with Uomo Vogue beauty, fun to be with. I want to meet young GM's to go out to movies, theatre, concerts, dinners and more! Send photo/phone to POB 570, NYC 11004.

GAY CONNECTION 540-3600

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and
Hottest
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\$1.50 1st min, .50/ea. addl.

LESBIAN CONNECTION



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Newest & Hottest
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message boxes available

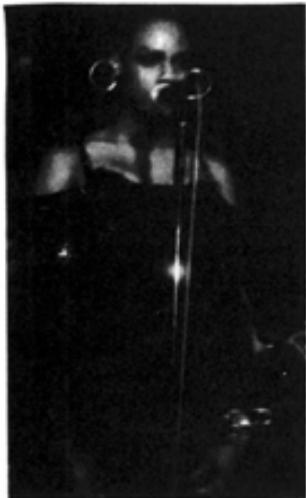
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\$1.50 1st min, .50/ea. addl.

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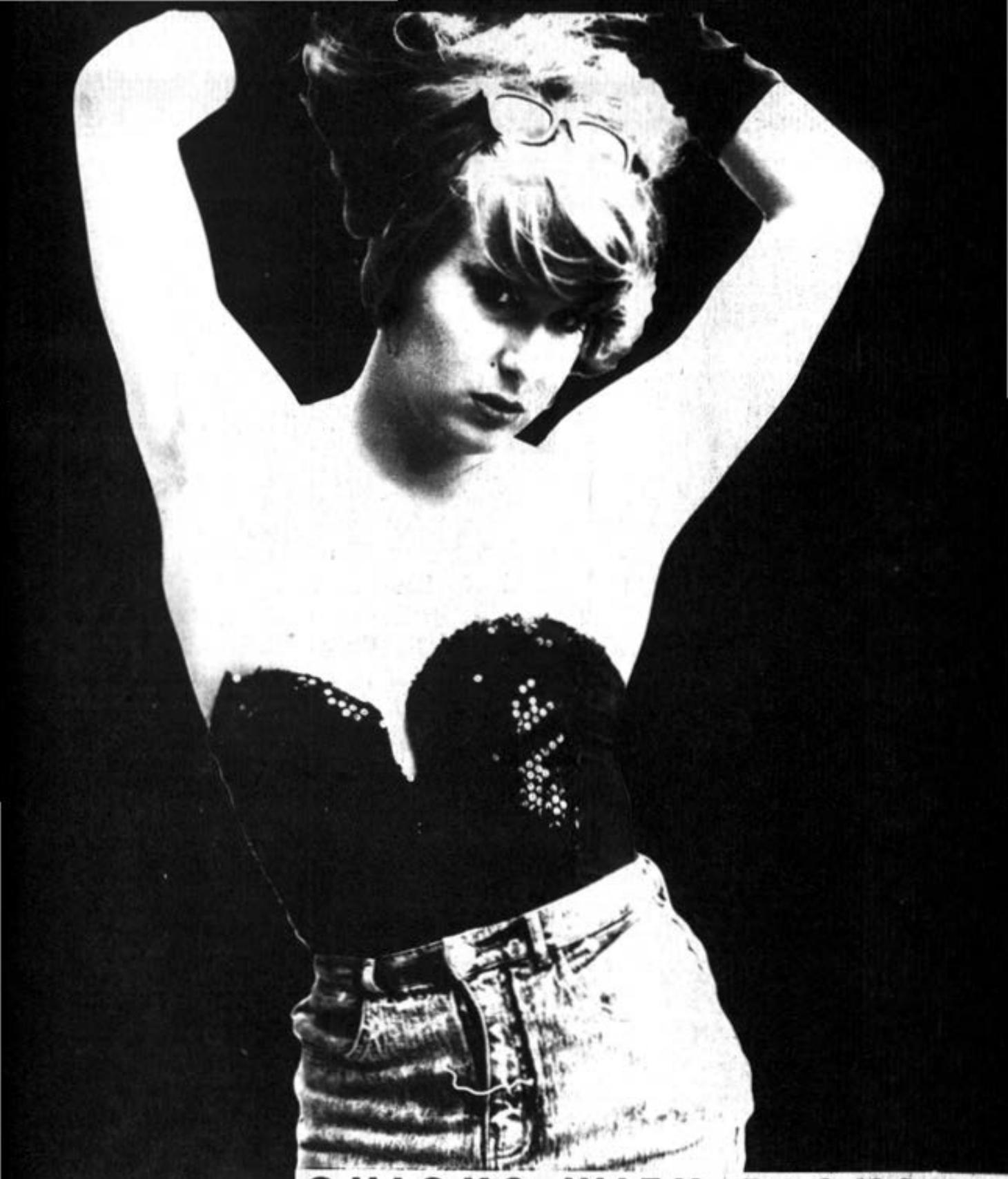
95¢ for the first minute, 50¢ for each additional minute.

Safer Sex Guidelines

1. **USE A CONDOM WHEN FUCKING.** Avoid oil-based lubricants such as baby oil, Vaseline, Crisco etc., as they can cause condoms to break. Instead use water-based lubes like KY. The older a condom, the less reliable, so find condoms whose manufacturers' dates are less than three months old.
2. **USE A CONDOM DURING ORAL SEX.** If you don't, avoid placing the head of your partner's cock in your mouth. HIV-infected cum or pre-cum can enter your bloodstream through cuts, tears or ulcers in your mouth.

3. **USE DENTAL DAMS DURING ORAL-VAGINAL SEX.** HIV is present in some amounts in vaginal secretions, urine, menstrual blood, and infection-related vaginal discharge.
4. **NEVER SHARE WORKS.** This includes needles, syringes, droppers, spoons, cottons or cookers. If you must reuse works, clean them after each use with bleach, or in an emergency with rubbing alcohol or vodka, by drawing the solution into the needle three times and then drawing clean water into the needle three times.
5. **AVOID FISTING, RIMMING, OR SHARING UNCLEANED SEX TOYS.**
6. **AVOID POPPERS.**
7. **AVOID EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL OR DRUG USE.** Many people are unable to maintain safer sex practices after getting high.
8. **DON'T HESITATE TO:** Fuck with a condom, have oral sex with a condom. Play with, but don't share, clean sex toys, vibrators and dildos. Enjoy massage, hugging, masturbation (alone, with a partner or in a group), and role-playing.

Remember, sex is good, and gay sex is great. Don't avoid sex, just avoid the virus. Learn to eroticize safer sex and you can protect others, remain safe and have fun.



CHICKS WITH DICKS
550·9999

(212, 718, 516, 914)

YOU MUST BE OVER 18 • 5 MINUTES \$1

CLASSIFIED / PERSONAL ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

All OutWeek Classified Advertising is prepaid.

The Deadline is NOON MONDAY, one week before on-sale date.

OutWeek reserves the right to edit, reject or rewrite any advertisement.

In case of error on our part, no refunds -- additional insertions only.

\$15.00 fee for copy changes or cancellations.

Mail sent to OutWeek Box #'s is forwarded weekly, on Tuesdays.

OutWeek boxes are NOT to be used for the distribution of bulk mail or advertising circulars.

FOR YOUR SAFETY, NO STREET ADDRESSES ARE PERMITTED IN THE PERSONALS SECTION.
OUTWEEK BOX #'S OR P.O. BOXES ONLY.

CLASSIFIED RATES:

\$3 per line (seven line minimum). Please conform your ad copy to the grid.

FREQUENCY DISCOUNTS:

4x 10%

13x 15%

26x 20%

PERSONALS RATES:

\$1 per line (seven line minimum). Please conform your ad copy to the grid.

DISPLAY CLASSIFIED RATES:

\$25 / column inch. Please inquire for frequency discounts. Column width: 1 7/8"

PERSONALS

____ lines @ \$1.00 (seven line minimum)= _____

times ____ weeks ad is to run: _____

Give me an OutWeek Box # and forward my mail each week for ____ months @ \$20 per month = _____

Telephone verification charge:
(if your phone # appears in ad) @ \$10.00 = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Start Issue: _____

Paid _____ Keyed _____ Proofed _____

Return this entire page,
with appropriate payment, to:
OutWeek Classifieds
77 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10010.

CLASSIFIED / PERSONAL ORDER FORM

One letter, space, or punctuation mark per box.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

CLASSIFIEDS

Category: _____

____ lines @ \$3.00 (seven line minimum)= _____

times ____ weeks ad is to run: _____

if ad is to run four or more times,
deduct appropriate frequency discount: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Charge my Visa / Mastercard. Acct. #: _____ Exp.: _____

Signature: _____

ONE- ON-ONE



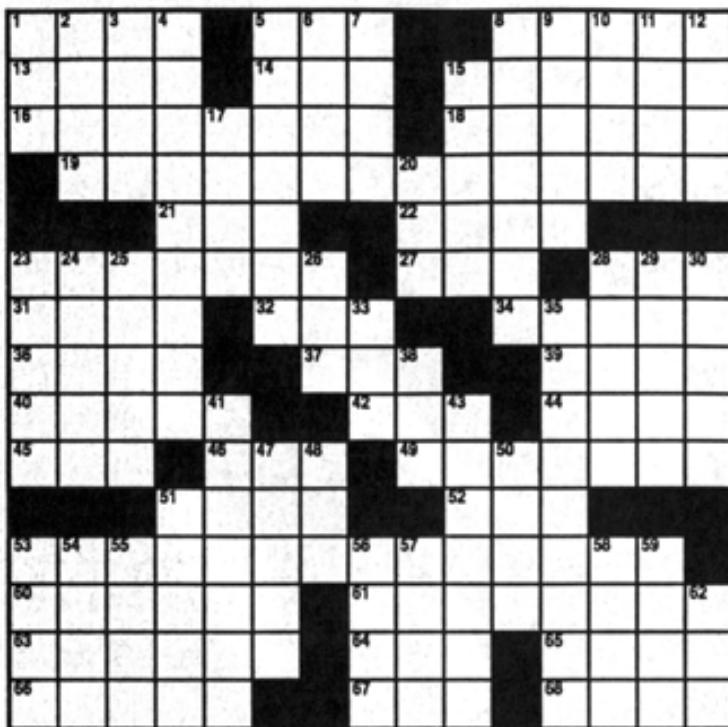
**1-900
990-6900**

\$1 per minute, \$2 the first

OutWeek Crossword

by Phil Greco

Edited by Gabriel Rotello



SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK ON SALE MONDAY

ACROSS

- Bridges or Noll
- "...La vie est ____!"
- Master's complement
- Jewish month
- Parker and Pacino
- Barton and Bow
- "____ Girl"
- "Like a ____"
- Rock diva looking gay on Letterman
- Spielberg character, et. al.
- Golden Temple devotee
- Gay Roman emperor
- Sesame
- Sash
- Weena, e.g.
- "Dress ____ Up"
- Belgium city
- Actor McCowen
- ____ Dalloway
- Part of Q.E.D.
- Liabilities
- Word with cat or kin

- Gossip
- Explosive
- Town
- All About Eve actress
- Car
- Underground stream
- Seen on Letterman with 19 Across
- "Papa Don't ____"
- "Express ____"
- Lessens
- Time zone abbr.
- Zum Klo
- Buttocks
- Kapital
- Expectorate

DOWN

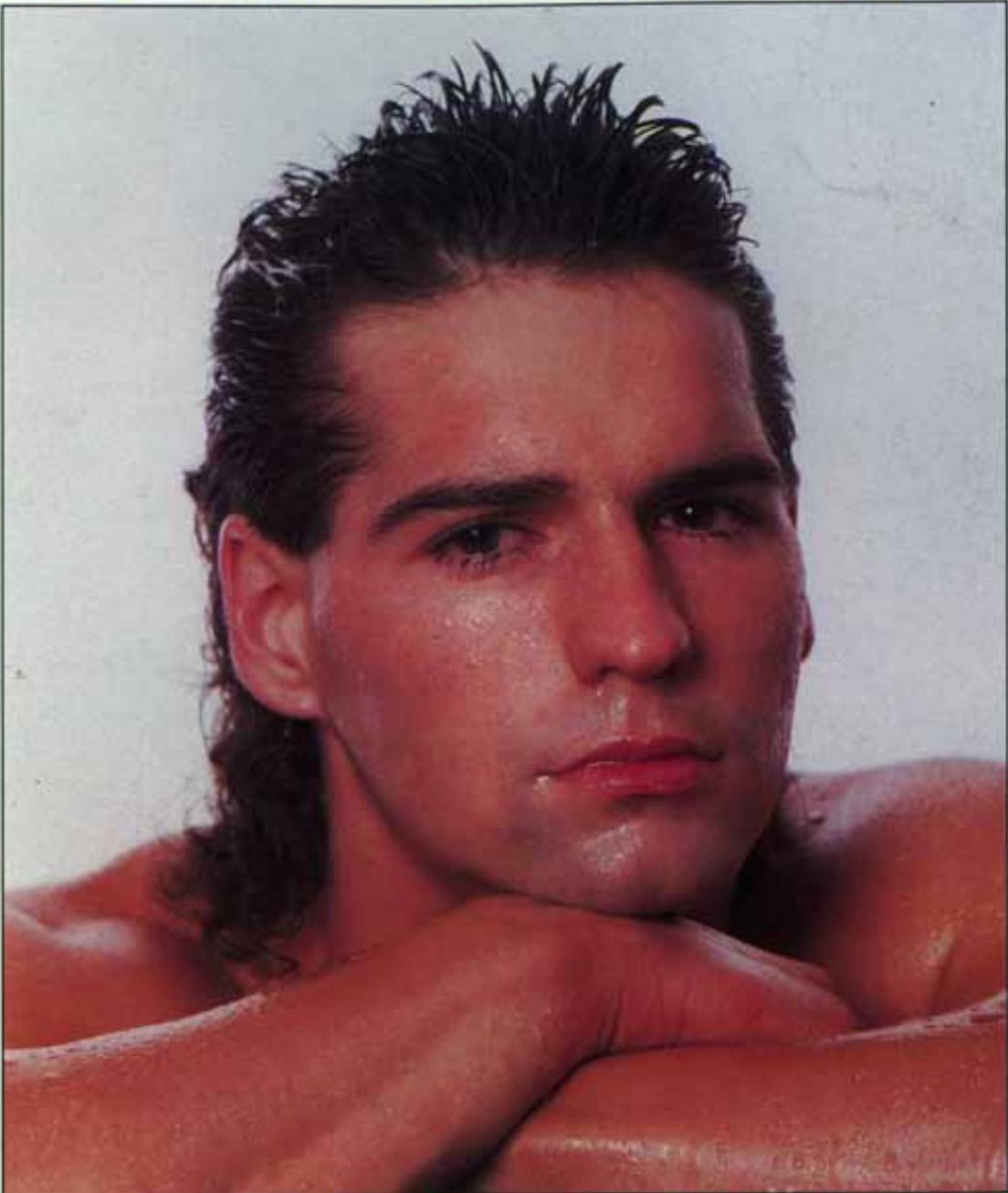
- ____ session
- Cheese
- morgana
- Gay Prussian king
- Deny
- Gay WWII code-breaker Turing

- "La ____ Bonita"
- Defly
- Kind of tree
- Jason's ship
- Putile
- Serf
- 108, to Nero
- Roast, to Genet
- Time zone abbr.
- "Open Your ____"
- Exhausted (2 wds.)
- Do, archaically
- ____ de plume
- Fragrant rootstock
- Beauty and the ____
- Tender ____ Night
- Vase
- Boy lovers
- Scrotum, e.g.
- Origins
- Bar snack
- A US state's
- Reiner or Roy
- Actor in Oz
- With Judy
- Bridge
- Turkish vehicle
- Tidy
- Ogled
- Ponselle or Bonheur
- Harvest
- 561, to Hadrian
- Word in NY Times motto

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

A	Y	S	L	I	M	E	D	A	R	K
ARE			H	U	M	A	N	A	S	E
SIAM			E	N	A	C	T	S	T	AR
HERBERT	M	R	A	R	M	A	R	H	A	SH
ESSAY			W	E						
BETTE	D	AVIS						R	E	PO
ALOE			D	I	A	N				ORES
BONA			A	N	N	E	B			
YIELD							S	U	R	
WEB										ASSES
OLD	A	QUAINT								
REAR			U	L	N	A	E			GALE
CORN								AGENT		GRAD
ANTE								LEWS		YET

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